Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

INDIA TODAY

1990 Sep-Oct

G K V LIB
HARDWAR

078608

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

COMPILED

028608

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

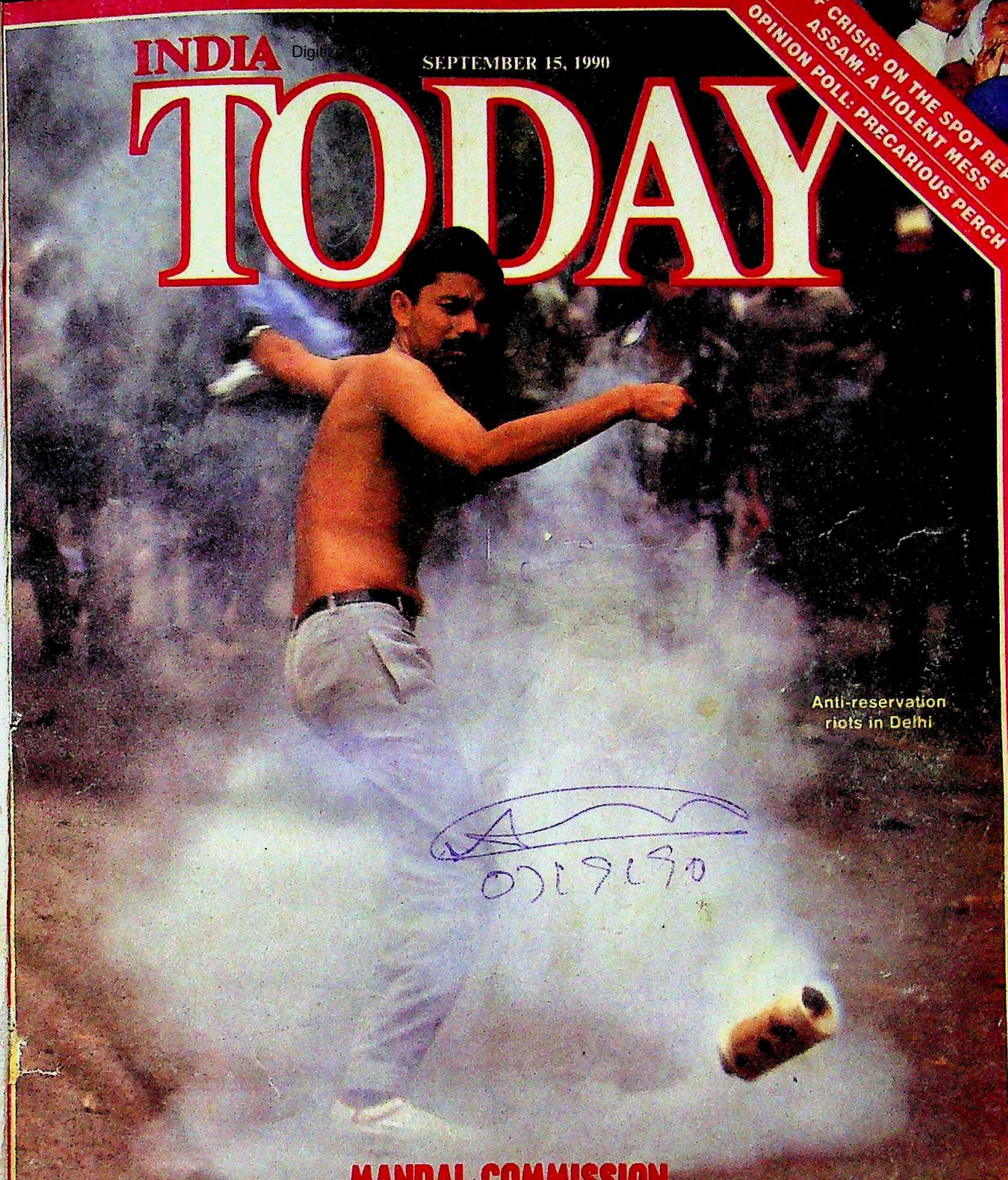
RT-01172

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

INDIA TODAY
SEPTEMBER 15, 1990

Digitized

GULF CRISIS: ON THE SPOT REPORT
ASSAM: A VIOLENT MESS
OPINION POLL: PRECARIOUS PERCH



Anti-reservation riots in Delhi

07/9/90

MANDAL COMMISSION

DIVIDING TO RULE

In his bid to carve out a caste-based vote bank, V.P. Singh has unleashed retrogressive forces which bode ill for the country.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Shades of Jade

Life's more beautiful moments celebrated on a carpet that transcends time.
Every inch woven by hand. . . with heart.
In a breathtaking display of designs, shades and sizes.

OBEETEE

The source of the finest hand knotted woollen carpets

Woolmark (ऊनमार्क) PURE NEW WOOL

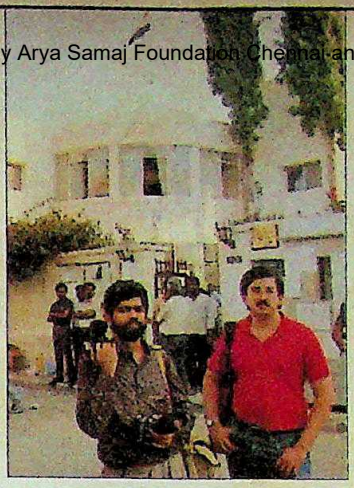
AVAILABLE IN INDIA EXCLUSIVELY AT OCM SHOWROOM, F-45 BASEMENT SOUTH EXTENSION PART 1, NEW DELHI 110049. TEL : 625772/698294

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

FOR those in the business of reporting news the perennial challenge is to be where the action is. In keeping with the increasing demands from our readership for more foreign news in a rapidly shrinking world INDIA TODAY *has reached out to places as far apart as Beijing and Bucharest, Teheran and Pnom Penh to bring the latest developments with an in-depth Indian perspective. The continuing crisis in the Persian Gulf, with its significant fall-out on India was an obvious story for us to follow.*

But it presented peculiar problems. Both Iraq, where the epicentre of the convulsions lay, and Saudi Arabia, where a multinational force landed to challenge Saddam Hussein, were disinclined to give visas to Indian journalists. For Bombay-based Senior Correspondent SALIL TRIPATHI *and photographer* NAMAS BHOJANI *the only option was to proceed to the United Arab Emirates in the immediate vicinity of the troubled region. After travelling through Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Bahrain and talking to scores of Indian businessmen, executives and diplomats they were able to secure visas for Jordan where thousands of Indians are fleeing from Iraq and Kuwait. For Salil and Namas who had made their first reporting trip to the Gulf in May, this visit presented a sharply different picture.*



Salil (right) and Namas in Jordan

From covering a bustling promised land for business just a few months ago the Gulf was now a region in panic and uncertainty. Says Salil: "The contrast is depressing. Particularly in the mood among the Indian community which was always considered the most enterprising in the Gulf." This issue's special report from the Gulf was supplemented with additional reportage from Kerala, the state most affected by the Gulf crisis, New Delhi and Bombay.

YET another milestone was crossed last fortnight as INDIA TODAY *brought a fifth language into its fold. Our Telugu edition, like our other editions, will strive to bring credible, objective, in-depth and multi-faceted news coverage of India and of events abroad that interest Indians. The launching of regional language editions is part of an effort to reach out to a much wider readership which now stands at an estimated 1.70 crore every issue for all our editions put together. Their success testifies to the fact that they are fulfilling a vital need.*

078608

IN FOCUS THIS FORTNIGHT

Dividing to Rule

V.P. Singh's decision to implement the Mandal Commission report may help carve out a vote bank for his party but it also threatens to cause a ferocious caste war that will tear the nation's fabric apart.

COVER STORY 98

Up for Grabs

The latest in a series of six-monthly opinion polls conducted by MARG for INDIA TODAY indicates a nation-wide disappointment with the performance of the National Front Government.

OPINION POLL 22

An Indian Nightmare

Besides setting off a massive exodus of Indian workers, Iraq's invasion of Kuwait has also closed a major foreign exchange source for India. Worse, rising oil prices strain India's foreign exchange reserves.

SPECIAL REPORT 89

CONTENTS

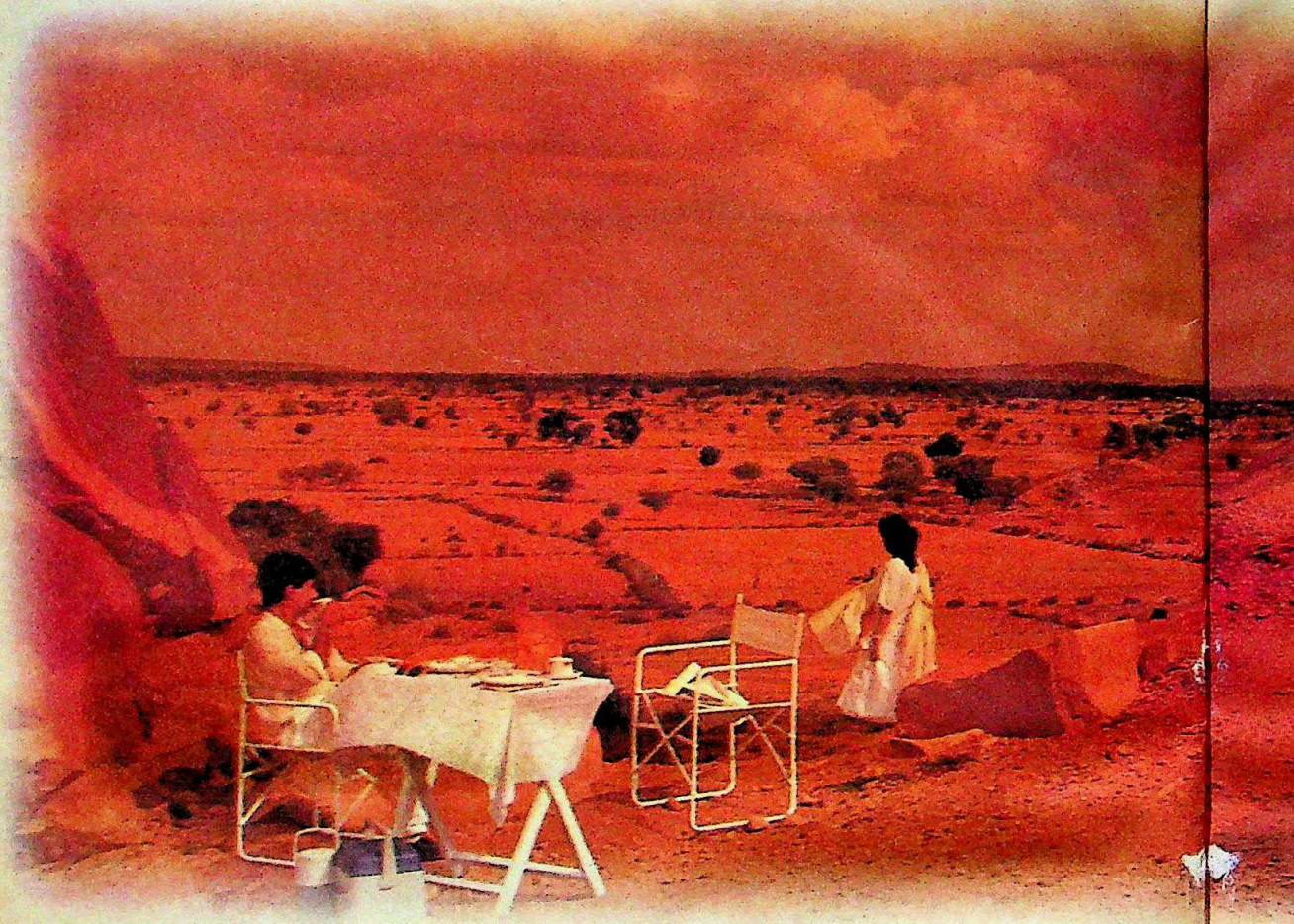
COMMENT 11
CAPITALOOK 14
OPINION POLL
The Government: Up for Grabs 22
SPECIAL REPORTS
BJP & The Left: Sanguine Supporters 31
Assam: A Violent Mess 38
CRIME
Modi Murder Case: Tempestuous Trial 51
CURRENT EVENTS 57
SPECIAL REPORT
The Gulf Crisis: An Indian Nightmare . 89
COVER STORY
Reservations: Dividing To Rule 98
BUSINESS FEATURE
Wine Industry: Bubbling Over 105
BUSINESS 111
NEIGHBOURS 141
GRASS WITHOUT ROOTS 143
ENVIRONMENT 149
INVESTIGATION 161
CINEMA 170
BOOKS 182
SPORTS 190
EYE-CATCHERS 192

Cover photograph by PRAMOD PUSHKARNA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

A car for those who have outgrown the cite



Contract HM 22160B

Accessories shown in the picture are not part of standard equipment.

A Limousine to every other car

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

n the citement of touring the cocktail circuit.

To people who are a trifle bored of clinking glasses, and making polite conversation, the Contessa Classic offers an intoxicating escape route.

A fuel efficient 1.8 litre Isuzu engine helps place vast distances between them and the maddening crowd.

Five forward gears, including an overdrive, smoothly raise the speedometer to 120 km per hour.

An impressively responsive steering places them in complete control of any situation.

Power disc brakes help stop them in their tracks — safely and smoothly.

And, of course, a plush interior, an independent suspension and air conditioning are enough to give you a high of a totally different kind.

But there's really much more to the Contessa. So why not get in touch with us.

And taste a heady mix of refined luxury and raw power —poured into a car.

Contessa
Classic 1·8 GL

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

More than just furnishings, we furnish you with ideas.

Step into Jagdish Store and discover what it takes to turn a house into a home. Furnishings that will give you ideas for every room. A range that will satisfy even the most discerning and demanding interior decorators. Exquisite polyester lace curtains. Drapes in a riot of polyester based jacquards and cotton satin prints. Handloom fabrics, from the traditional to the most contemporary. Curtains, upholstery, bedcovers, cushion covers in pure silk. And more. Bedspreads, sheets, table linen, bath room sets, even doormats. You name it, we have it. Everything you need to furnish your nest, under one roof at Jagdish Store. Please ome. And, don't forget to bring your imagination with you!

JAGDISH STORE

Everything your home deserves
Under one roof.

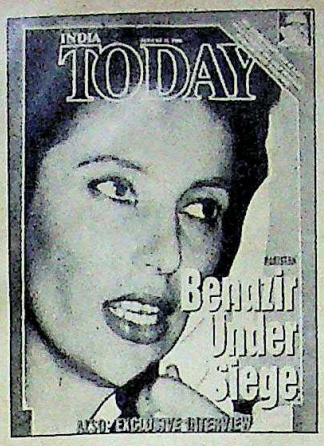
Furnishing Fabrics · Carpets · Bedwear · Table Linen · Bathroom Sets

JAGDISH STORE (A unit of JS Furnishing (P) Ltd.)
Hardhian Singh Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110 005. Ph:- 5717985, 5728349 • 39, Ring Road Lajpat Nagar III New Delhi 110024 Ph:- 6843206, 6838458.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Anthem/JS/879

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



MOUNTING TENSION

The dismissal of the democratically-elected PPP government ("Benazir Under Siege", August 31) headed by Benazir Bhutto is bound to result in an increase of terrorism in Kashmir. The Indian defence forces must be fully prepared to meet the challenge.

Pune — D. ROY CHOWDHURY

FROM CRISIS TO CRISIS

All the hue and cry over the forged letter controversy ("The Battered Victor", August 15) only seems to be an excuse to remove Devi Lal, a game played by V.P. Singh in order to safeguard his position as prime minister.

Siliguri — R.K. GULATI

■ Any recurrence of political crises like the present one would spell doom not only for the National Front Government but also for any future experiment with a coalition government. Certainly, hard times are ahead for the Government if its allies are gearing themselves for a mid-term poll.

Jabalpur — S. SUBRAMANIUM

■ It was sad that the deputy prime minister was dismissed from the Cabinet instead of being asked to resign.

Madras — K.V. RAJAGOPALAN

■ Permanent peace can be achieved in the Janata Dal only if Devi Lal wipes out from his mind the thought that he is a king-maker. The recent crisis has proved that nobody supports him on occasions when he attempts to destabilise the Government.

Lucknow — RAKHEE SETH

■ The dismissal of the Tau should stabilise the National Front Government for the rest of its term.

Panjim — M.K. JOS

■ It is surprising to note that your magazine, known for its non-partisan attitude, has become such a staunch supporter of V.P. Singh. According to you, Singh can do nothing but good, can never say anything but the truth, and draws his strength from his own weaknesses. How can the prime minister of a nation, especially one as artful and shrewd as V.P. Singh, not know about the scheming that goes on around him?

Visakhapatnam — ARUN VICTOR

■ Rajiv Gandhi's cautious reactions to the drama in the ruling party are born more out of necessity than lethargy. If indeed he had infused his party with a sense of "throbbing excitement" at the prospect of destroying the ruling party, his many detractors would have denounced him as an opportunist intent on playing the toppling game. By not capitalising on the situation he has shown himself in a much better light than his ruling party counterparts.

Bahrain — N. SHIVAKUMAR

■ Though your cover story was well researched, expertly edited and superbly produced it had lost its topicality by the time it reached the readers as subsequent developments leading to the ouster of Devi Lal had overtaken it. The remedy lies in making INDIA TODAY a weekly.

Madras — V.G. RAMANATHAN

NEED OF THE HOUR

A high level committee of intellectuals should be appointed by the Government to study the various aspects of a presidential form of government ("Change the System", August 15), its suitability in Indian conditions and its relative advantages and disadvantages over the present system.

Panaji — SANJAY BELURKAR

■ You suggest only one alternative to the present system—the American presidential system with separation of powers. A modified Swiss system is a more feasible alternative. This should be introduced at the state level initially and after some years of trial, implemented at the Centre.

New Delhi — S.R. SEN

■ The time has come to change our political system. Our country needs a prime minister who does not constantly have to act under pressure from his own party members.

Indore — PRABHAKAR S. HARSOLE

A NEW OPENNESS

Since the Indian prime minister is not directly chosen by the people ("Pathetic Posturing", August 15) he must not ignore the advice of his cabinet colleagues or MPs and must expose his government to public scrutiny as frequently as possible to maintain its integrity. V.P. Singh is trying to do just that—linking the Government with the people—and should be encouraged rather than denounced.

Calcutta — A. CHAUDHURI

LAME EXCUSE

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Sunderlal Patwa's statement ("Religious Row", August 15) that although a law to check forcible conversions exists, missionaries adopt nefarious means to spread their faith, only exposes the inefficiency of his government in not checking these forcible conversions through law. The Government must also keep a check on foreign contributions to avoid misuse.

Madras — S. EDWIN JAYA RAJ

POINTLESS POLITICS

The vilification campaign against the Bachchan brothers ("Earning a Reprieve", August 15) by the present Government has boomeranged. The case clearly proves that the prime minister should not waste precious time in being vindictive.

Bangalore — IAN EDWARDS

TRENDY DRESSING

It is indeed refreshing to see men dress smartly these days ("Readymade Road to Success", August 15). The quality of garments is of the highest

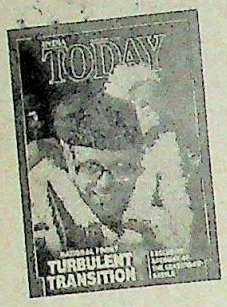
VOLUME XV NUMBER 17: FOR THE FORTNIGHT SEPTEMBER 1-15, 1990

● EDITORIAL OFFICE LIVING MEDIA INDIA LTD. F-14/15, CONNAUGHT PLACE NEW DELHI 110001. PHONE: 3315801-4, TELEX: 31-61245 INTO IN CABLE: LIVMEDIA. NEW DELHI ● SUBSCRIPTIONS: LIVING MEDIA INDIA LIMITED. POST BOX 706. FARIDABAD-121007, HARYANA ● TRADE CIRCULATION: INDIA TODAY CIRCULATION MANAGER. F-14 CONNAUGHT PLACE, MIDDLE CIRCLE. NEW DELHI. PHONE: 3313076-8. TELEX: 31-62634 INTO IN ● ADVERTISING OFFICES: 28 A&B JOLLY MAKER CHAMBER II, NARIMAN POINT, BOMBAY-400021. PHONE: 2026152, 2029326, 2029435. TELEX: 11-85373 THOM IN. CABLE: LIVMEDIA. BOMBAY ● K-9, CONNAUGHT CIRCUS, NEW DELHI-110001. PHONES: 3325378, 3323576, 3321323 AND 3321273. TELEX: 31-62124 THOM IN CABLE: LIVMEDIA. NEW DELHI ● FAGUN CHAMBERS, 26 COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF ROAD, MADRAS-600105. PHONE: 477188, 479163. CABLE: LIVMEDIA MADRAS ● 74/1 ST. MARKS ROAD, BANGALORE-560001, PHONE: 213037, 212448; CABLE: LIVMEDIA. BANGALORE ● 12C EVEREST 46C CHOWRINGEE ROAD, CALCUTTA-700016. PHONE: 445398, 447726. CABLE: LIVINMEDIA. CALCUTTA ● COPYRIGHT 1987 LIVING MEDIA INDIA LTD. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. REPRODUCTION IN ANY MANNER IS PROHIBITED. PUBLISHED BY AROON PURIE FOR LIVING MEDIA INDIA LTD. NEW DELHI AND PRINTED AT THOMSON PRESS INDIA LTD. FARIDABAD HARYANA ● INDIA TODAY DOES NOT TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR RETURNING UNSOLICITED PUBLICATION MATERIAL ●

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

INDIA TODAY
INTERNATIONAL EDITION



GIFT INDIA TO SOMEONE YOU CARE FOR...

GIFT FOR
ADDRESS
CITY CODE
COUNTRY

Please send one year's subscription of *INDIA TODAY*, International Edition and my gift card to the person named above. Enclosed is my cheque*/DD*/(add Rs 5/- for outstation cheques, ie outside Delhi) for Rs.

payable to Living Media India Ltd

MY NAME
ADDRESS

Send this advertisement and payment to
Living Media India Ltd
P B No 706,
Faridabad 121 007

Annual Airmail Subscription Rates

Rs. 365 BANGLADESH BHUTAN NEPAL

Rs. 850 ALL OTHER COUNTRIES

*Cheques/Bank Drafts payable at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras must be MICR only

order due to the stiff competition in the ready-made men's wear market. We no longer need to buy foreign clothes.

Hyderabad — DULIP ABRAHAM

VULGAR EXTRAVAGANCE

It is ironical that so much money is spent on parties for little children ("Flights of Fantasy", August 15). Only the very rich and those with black money can afford to throw such gaudy parties.

Vadodara — P.M. BHAGAT

OFF TRACK

The invectives M.J. Akbar used against your correspondent ("Letters", August 15) should have been directed at the PRO of Jama Masjid but I wonder if he has the guts to displease the Imam.

New Delhi — D.K. DUTTA

COMMENDABLE EFFORTS

Bihar until recently was a state marked by administrative incompetence, apathy, violence and communalism. But due to Chief Minister Laloo Prasad Yadav's efforts ("Tough Tack", July 31), the law and order situation has improved a lot. This year's Ramnavami went off peacefully—an event unprecendented in Bihar's history.

Nanjangud — K.S. VISWANATHAN

A CLARIFICATION

We at Nine A.M. were deeply disturbed by your article on fashion wear ("Readymade Road to Success", August 15). You have mentioned that our brand is among those which are just managing to survive. Nine A.M. is actually among the top five national brands having over hundred retail outlets countrywide. Seemingly, your correspondent has assumed that only the brands that are advertised are doing well. In fact, we have reached a stage where we do not need excessive advertising to sell our products.

Bombay — SANDEEP SAMTANI
Director, KMC Garments Pvt Ltd

■ *Since no figures of its turnover were forthcoming from Nine A.M., our correspondent relied on oral feedback from the market to form an opinion on the sales of the company's brand. As no definitive information is available in the industry there is scope for a difference of opinion. The inaccuracies, if any, are regretted.*
—Editor

DISTURBING ACT

I was deeply shaken to hear about the gunning down of four officers of 8th Bn of the Jat Regiment ("Rank Disorder", July 31) by young jawans. This battalion joined my brigade in July 1971 and was well disciplined and highly motivated. The battalion fought gallantly and beat back repeated Pakistani attacks to capture Poonch in December 1971. It is sad that such a fine unit was allowed to be ruined by parochial officers. It only confirms what A.Wavel said: "There are no bad units, there are bad officers."

Bhiwani — Brigadier. (Retd.) M.S. PANWAR

THE RIGHT CONNECTION

Your article on condoms ("Boom Time", July 31) states that Lorcom Protectives Limited was promoted as a joint venture of London Rubber Company India Limited of TTK group and Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation whereas it is a joint venture of London Rubber Company India Limited and The State Industrial & Investment Corporation of Maharashtra Limited (SICOM)

Bombay — ANAND WARTY,
senior manager (Advtg & P.R.), SICOM

NOBLE INTENTIONS

The former president Giani Zail Singh consented to become the chief patron of The Foundation for Freedom of Information after a great deal of persuasion and it is preposterous to suggest that he wants to use the Foundation as a launching pad to contest the presidential election as stated in the story ("Comeback Efforts", July 31).

New Delhi — R.S. NARULA

OUT OF FOCUS

In your article ("Narcissus Arrives", July 31) the photograph by Shyam Tekwani was wrongly captioned as having been taken at a south Delhi parlour whereas it was taken at our beauty parlour in the Welcomgroup Chola Sheraton at Madras.

Madras — PRATHIMA VASAN

NOT ON BOARD

The chief of IAF's Maintenance Command did not accompany the delegation to Moscow as stated in your cover story ("Are We Prepared", June 30).

Nagpur — Squadron Leader S.P. MALHOTRA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Most thrilling, chilled

KINGFISHER
MINERAL WATER

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

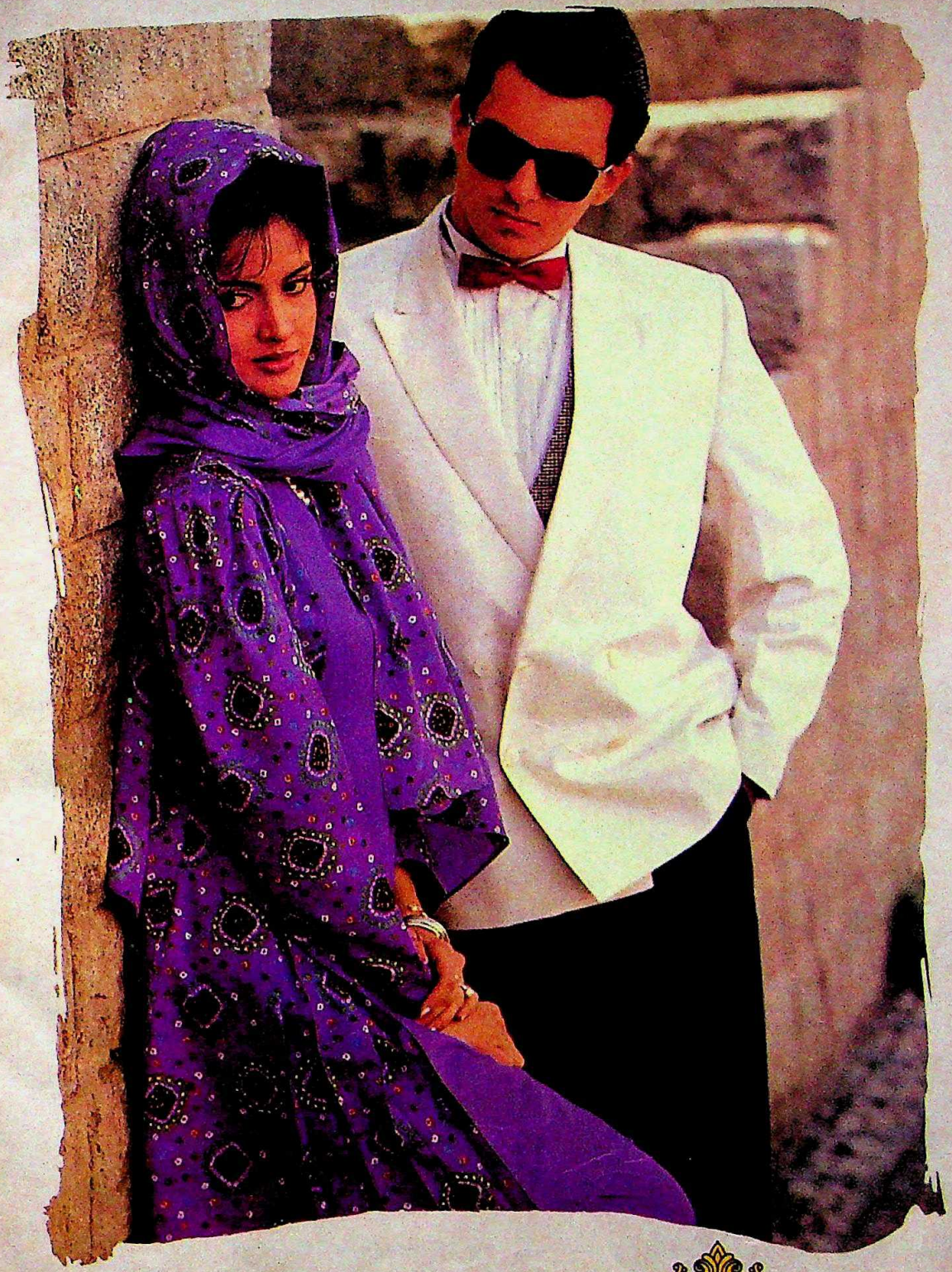
Creations for

Contract JCT 21783 C

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

The Thapar Group



for Masterpiece.

ITINGS • SHIRTINGS • DRESS MATERIALS

JCT FABRICS

Swissair Customer Portrait: Naaz Rovshen, Corporate President.

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Ironically, Naaz Rovshen leaves one Gateway, only to be welcomed to Swissair's European Gateway. Zurich, of co
Naaz's gateway to business in Europe. Where Swissair flies to more than fifty destinations. Nine in Germany, s
France, six in Italy and three in the U.K. With this Swissair daily feature, you also enjoy Swiss hospitality and punctu
All of which will have you agreeing with Naaz that Swissair's European Gateway, brings that same feeling of warm
experienced upon sighting the Gateway of India.

For details call your IATA travel agent or the nearest Swissair office:
AHMEDABAD 449149 • BANGALORE 211983 • BOMBAY 2872210 • CALCUTTA 444643 • COCHIN 360380 • DELHI 3325511 • HYDERABAD 211144 • KATHMANDU 222452 • MADRAS

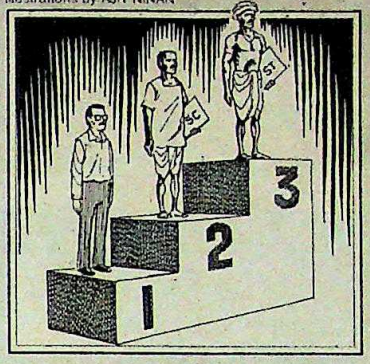
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

everest/90/S

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Policy Reservations

Illustrations by AJIT NINAN



POPULISM is the last refuge of desperate politicians. It would be premature to dump Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh into that category. But his tunnel-visioned resolve to shove the controversial reservations policy down the country's throat smacks of political expediency.

Whether or not Singh achieves his political objective of cementing the backward castes, Harijans and Scheduled Tribes into a lasting vote bank through implementing the job, educational and promotion quotas recommended by the Mandal Commission is another matter. But the social price that this already deeply and bitterly divided land may have to pay could be horrendous.

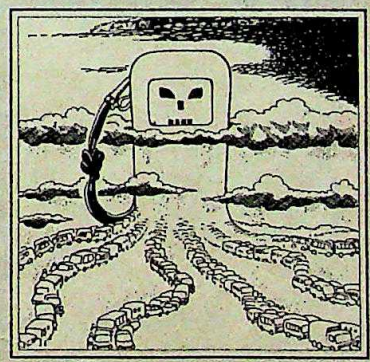
Sadly, the religious divide that partitioned this country is being resuscitated by the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid battle. And linguistic wars pitch community against community. Add to these tensions a system that formally anoints—indeed, institutionalises—caste as the basis of educational and professional advancement, and you not only highlight but also exacerbate the most fundamental hatreds and prejudices that have lacerated Indian society since time immemorial. The violence that is spreading through Bihar, Gujarat and Rajasthan is a preview of the real horrors that may lie ahead.

The paramount necessity is fairness and the impartial and rigorous implementation of the law. If Dalits are being exploited or massacred in villages in Bihar the law must crack down hard. All cases of discrimination in jobs and education on the basis of caste, sex or religion must be relentlessly prosecuted, even in special tribunals.

The state must function not as a promoter of quotas based on the demography of caste but as a referee guaranteeing equal opportunity at the starting line. It must help pull the disadvantaged into the mainstream by guaranteeing them basic quality education, providing them emergency economic assistance, identifying and helping the brightest of them through aid and scholarships, and paving the way for allowing them to compete in any field they desire.

The Government's larger objective, eradication of poverty, is laudable. But it cannot be achieved by lowering competitive standards. The lasting solution is to expand the economic cake rather than apportion its slices according to some pathetic caste-based formula. This entails a solid commitment to rapid economic growth, and removal of all barriers in the path of production and speedier industrialisation. The answer lies in providing more jobs for more people, not reserved jobs for reserved people.

Road to Reason



WITH the Gulf region hotting up critically and with India's abysmal balance of payments position showing absolutely no signs of improving it is not difficult to foresee a serious fuel crunch.

Belt-tightening will become most necessary. But whatever measures the Government may be contemplating must not become a repetition of the recently jettisoned policy which had ordered the closing of all petrol pumps on Sundays.

That flawed and hastily conceived half-step led to panic buying and hoarding—resulting in people actually buying and storing more petrol than they would normally use—and, of course, the inevitable black-marketeering.

Today, India is a nation on motorised wheels. In the last decade the number of motor vehicles on the road has jumped from 51 lakh to more than 1.6 crore. In Delhi alone, on an average, around 700 vehicles are registered every day. Any new policy aimed at curbing consumption must combine pricing with hard steps to eliminate wastage and inefficient use of fuel. It is an opportunity to examine new ways of disciplining people into conserving fuel even if it means a change in their life-styles.

Driving inside towns and cities and parking vehicles at any available space should no longer be considered a universal right. There is no reason why major cities and metropolitan areas like Delhi should not have no-parking zones. In fact, to discourage superfluous, petrol-consuming traffic barging into cities, free parking will have to be abolished. Parking should be allowed only in garages or in specially-designated areas equipped with parking meters.

Another approach would be to build parking lots outside downtown and office areas with ferry-buses ploughing in between. This would not only reduce congestion but also limit the distance travelled by private cars each day thereby cutting back on fuel consumption. As additional discipline, cars with single occupants during designated evening and morning rush-hours should be made to pay a fee. This would tend to encourage neighbourhood car-pooling and the use of commuter buses from city-fringe parking lots.

This is also an opportunity for the Government to seriously start thinking again about new and efficient rapid mass transit systems for its burgeoning metropolises and to formulate strict guidelines that will lead to a ban on fuel-guzzlers and will ensure that manufacturers produce only fuel-efficient vehicles.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

The Godrej 900 Series. Absolutely the last word in printer technology. Never before have you had so many functions and facilities. Packed into a sleek, yet rugged frame.

LIGHT AND COMPACT DESIGN

A smaller footprint. The smallest width of all 132-column printers. Engineered for heavy duty. Yet light by design. You can even carry it to a service centre for on-the-spot attention.

QUICK, CONVENIENT OPERATION

The maximum number of functions ever located on the front panel. Over 25 on the top-line models. Including important functions normally found only on DIP switches.

Plus key diagnostic features available on-line. For the first time in India. And DIP switches and interfaces on the side just next to your right hand.

NOW EVERYTHING ELSE IS HISTORY

VERSATILE, EASY PAPER HANDLING

Paper handling is child's play with the 900 Series. You have every facility. Better friction feed. Push/pull tractor assembly.

E L E C T R O N I C B U S I N E S S

Godrej & Boyce Mfg. Co. Ltd., Marketing Dept., Plant 16, Pirojshanagar, Vikhroli, Bombay 400 079. Tel: 589241/51/61/71. Tlx: 011-71502 GOVK.
BRANCH OFFICES: BOMBAY (NORTH) Tel: 588451-58 • **Bombay (South)** Tel: 2048371 • **Bombay (Mofussil)** Tel: 589289 • **Ahmedabad** Tel: 831545 • **Bhopal** Tel: 554076/77/78 • **Indore** Tel: 21162/63 • **Jabalpur** Tel: 27321 • **Pune** Tel: 668968/69 • **Rajkot** Tel: 24919 • **DELHI** Tel: 6845002/07

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Paper Park. Auto Paper Load. And even an Auto Cut Sheet feeder as an option.

QUIETER PERFORMANCE, MUSICAL CUES

40% quieter than earlier generation printers. And the Quiet Mode is even quieter. More, the 900 Series uses musical notes to alert you to key operating factors. Not harsh, rude beeps like the others emit.

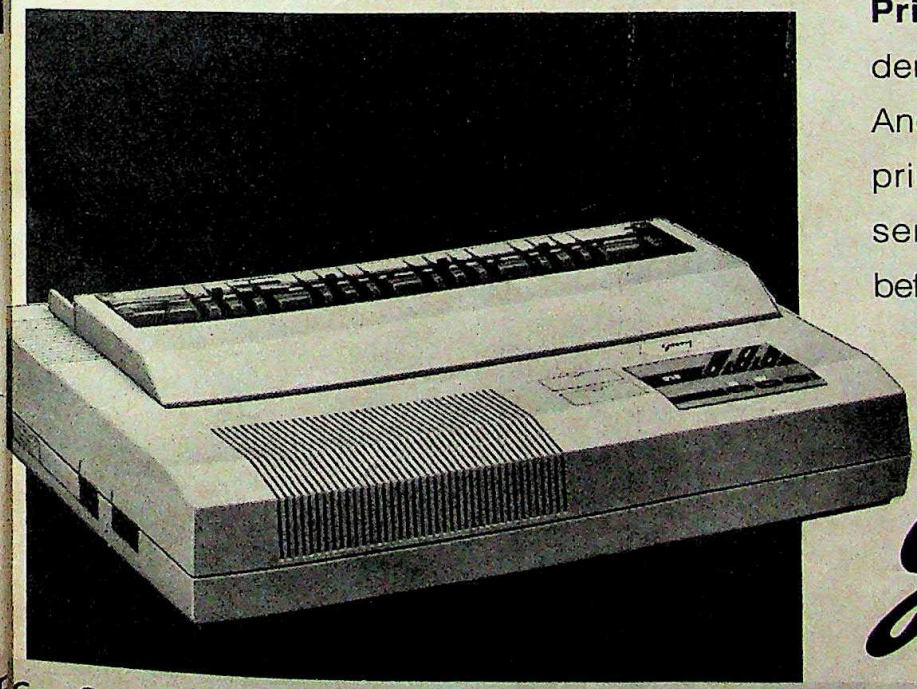
RUGGED, RELIABLE ENGINEERING

One of the finest printheads ever offered in India. With a life of 200 million characters – or over 500 million strokes.

EASY SERVICEABILITY, WIDEST SERVICE CENTRE NETWORK

The 900 Series is designed for rapid servicing. And Godrej has a nationwide service centre network. So you are assured of minimum down time.

The Godrej 900 Series Dot Matrix Printers. Ask for a demonstration today. And see why Godrej printers make better sense than ever before.



Godrej 900 SERIES ®

EQUIPMENT

E3E

ULKA-13377

• **Chandigarh** Tel: 44328 • **Faridabad** Tel: 24477 7• **Jaipur** Tel: 62182 • **Kanpur** Tel: 210135 • **Lucknow** Tel: 248963 • **CALCUTTA** Tel: 200961-66
• **Bhubaneswar** Tel: 406544/405082 • **Guwahati** Tel: 33172 • **Patna** Tel: 225380/225886 • **Jamshedpur** Tel: 28803 • **BANGALORE** Tel: 575902/577036
• **MADRAS** Tel: 479695/477615 • **Cochin** Tel: 366284/354815 • **Hyderabad** Tel: 230875 • **Trivandrum** Tel: 78104 • **Visakhapatnam** Tel: 61178/64259

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Security Scare

● The ouster of Devi Lal from the Union Cabinet is setting off countless echoes—and in the unlikeliest of places. Security officials responsible for the physical

welfare of government VIPs have been nervous lately about whispers of reactions from an unexpected quarter.

The Intelligence Bureau has given them a tip-off that some of the policemen—inspectors and constables—belonging to the Haryana and attached to various VIP security duties are seething with anger about the unceremonious manner in which their Tau was dismissed from the deputy prime ministership. For the present, all that's feared is that they may be slacking off in their duties.

But while there is no parallel to the comprehensive scrutiny that all Sikh constables as well as officials were placed under, following the assassination of Mrs Gandhi, the current situation has triggered a low-level alert in which a special watch is being kept on Haryanvi policemen. "We don't expect any serious trouble to break out," confided a senior police officer. Nevertheless, he added that an investigation into whether these Jats in uniform are being politically instigated is under way.

Prime Patron

● The Bombay film industry is admittedly lovestruck, with romance just about oozing out of every new release. But who could ever imagine that the love bug would bite even Rashtrapati Bhawan?

Last fortnight President R. Venkataraman hosted a cozy little tea party for several VVIPs. This is routine. But what proved to be an eye-popping departure on the occasion was the special screening, in the presidential palace, of the romantic blockbuster *Maine Pyar Kiya*.

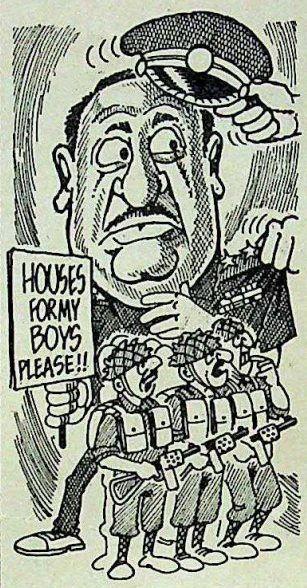
The mushy-eyed audience included the film's producers, the Barjatiyas; Mrs Shankar Dayal Sharma; Chief Justice Sabyasachi Mukharji and his wife; and

Cartoons by AJIT NINAN

two middle-aged lovebirds, Rajiv and Sonia Gandhi.

Service Above Self

● There is considerable resentment among army officers over the way the top brass chose to show the door to Lt-General S.C. Sardeshpande, director-general (in-



fantry). They feel he was hounded out simply for fighting for the welfare of his men.

Last year, as chief of IPKF headquarters in Madras, the highly-decorated soldier had taken up the cause of IPKF veterans who were not given army accommodation in Madras and had to take up costly private housing. He insisted that army headquarters re-imburse them. If there was no redressal of the grievance, he offered to take early retirement.

In May this year, Sardeshpande was promoted to lieutenant-general and posted to army headquarters. The re-imbursement arrears were also cleared. But the system rarely forgives those who fight it. Last month the Government "accepted" his request for premature retirement.

Hero Worship

● The interest in Rajiv Gandhi's activities, his political designs, his motor tours and railroad peregrinations never seems to fade.

And one person who seems determined to preserve every waking moment of his, as it were, for posterity is the alluring actress-turned-producer Simi Garewal. Last year, while filming Rajiv as the nation's prime minister, she spent more time with him than any other journalist or even politician had.

The end product, *India's Rajiv*, turned out to be a syrupy, star-struck apologia of Rajiv's performance, and the critics dismissed it with the scorn it deserved.

But Garewal's thick-

skinned tenacity is boundless. She's again spending long hours behind the camera on a sequel to her first project. Her idea is to capture the changing moods of her hero in his many splendoured avatar as opposition leader. She has not yet decided on the title for the new documentary but *Garewal's Gandhi* could be as good a bet as any.

TAIL PIECE

The query doing the rounds.

Why does Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh always get the moral upper edge over Devi Lal?

For no other reason, but that he is holier-than-Tau.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

COME HOME TO

GREEN SERENE

It's the end of your day.
Come away from the heat, tension and strain.
To lush and serene Alipore. A mere two kilometre drive from Calcutta's business centres. To a green welcome, of whispering shrubs and trees; the scent of flowers and a blue, blue pool. Come home to where it's calm and soothing. To Taj Bengal.

Taj Bengal
Calcutta India

A whole new experience

THE TAJ GROUP OF HOTELS

TSA-C/TB/2290

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

In the Gulf, we've to take a little peppe while having a lot of wire rods

Not only in the Gulf, in the USA in Australia, in Japan and in Zealand, in Bangladesh, in China West Germany and in many o countries, Tata Steel, today, exporting a wide range of product

The objectives are evidently c To ensure foreign exchange earni which are a national priority, an establish a long-term quality le ship for the Company and the cou in the global market.

In just six years, Tata Steel (wi turnover of Rs 146 crore) has bec one of the country's largest expor Its range not only covers enginee goods and raw materials but

mmoditi
ffee and
its large
w mate
odernisat
a nett e
mpany v
ward for

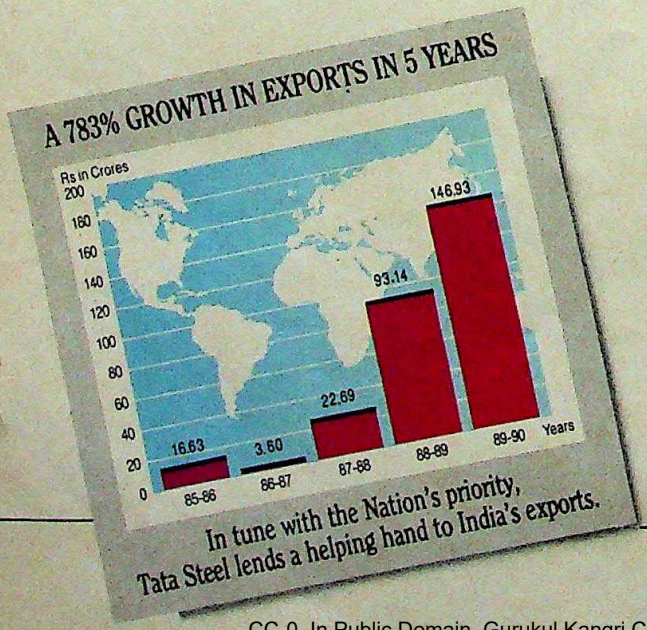
Today, T
oneering
ross the
se for In

ata Stee

eel and
eel-based
gineerin
oducts

w Mater

mmodit



HTA 4058

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

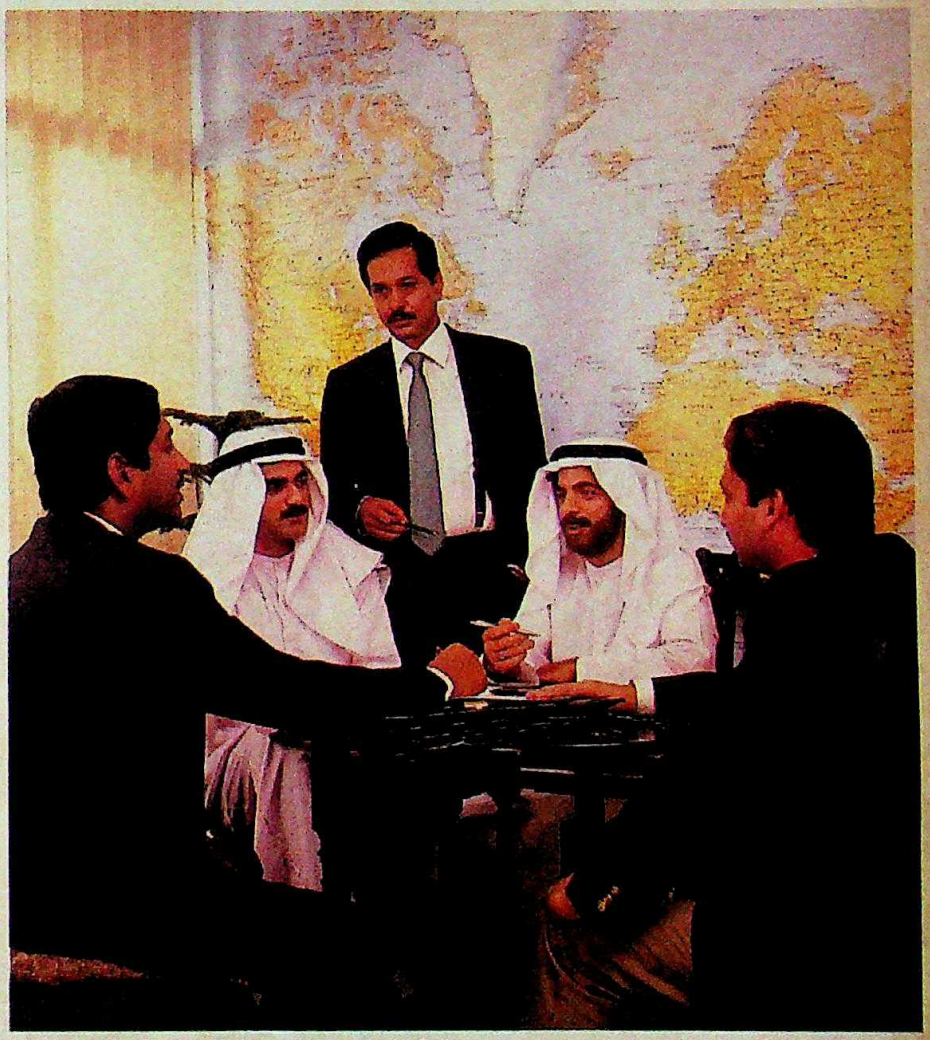
persuaded people

mmodities such as black pepper, ffee and black tiger shrimps. In spite its large imports of equipment and w materials for the on-going odernisation drive, Tata Steel, today, a nett exporter. For 1985-86, the mpany won the prestigious National ward for Exports.

Today, Tata Steel is spreading all its oneering expertise and experience ross the seas to build a long term se for India—all over the world.

ata Steel Exports:

eel and eel-based gineering oducts	- Wire rods, re-inforcing bars, structurals, tubes, wires, bars, cranes, rolls, bearings, etc.
w Materials	- Chrome ore & concentrates, manganese ore, ferro-manganese, ferro-chrome, charge chrome, refractories, etc.
mmodities	- Black pepper, coffee, black tiger shrimps.



Discussions that are opening up new markets in the Gulf

TATA STEEL

DECADE OF EXPORTS

1990 2000

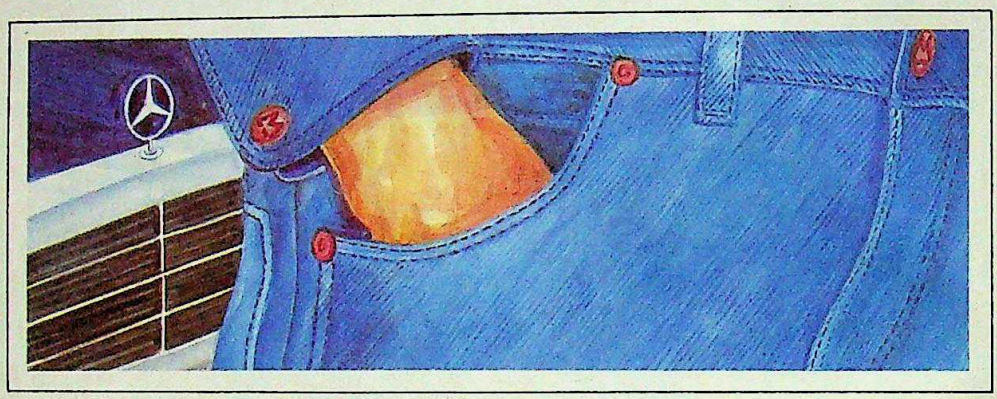
TATA STEEL

The first and still the foremost

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

There will never be a fabric like Denim. There will never be a day when it's not in fashion.



* Fashions come and go but like diamonds denim is forever.
* Modern Suitings is now setting up a new 100% EOU Project to manufacture 7.2 million metres of quality denim for export to the world's finest fashion designers.
* Modern Suiting is all set to ride the crest of a great blue wave.

Sobhagya/172/90

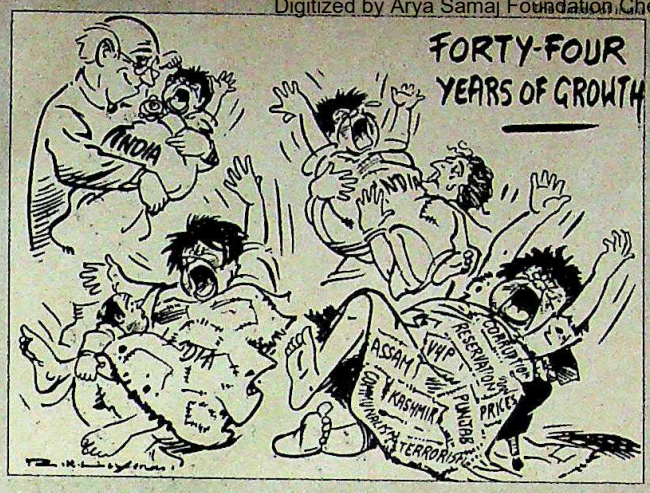
Modern Suitings Limited

Regd. Office : D-22, Moti Dungari Road, Jaipur-302 004.

Be a part of the Modern Blue Wave.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



● *I don't know how we got labelled as computer boys, the colour televisionwallahs, the consumer items crowd...I have never owned a pair of Gucci loafers in my life.*
■ RAJIV GANDHI in *Sunday*

● *The Government is ours, but who runs it? The Vinod Pandes and the Bhure Lals and top of them Ramnath Goenka.*
■ DEVI LAL at the kisan rally in New Delhi

● *You are acting more like the undertaker of democracy rather than the caretaker of democracy.*
■ BENAZIR BHUTTO on caretaker Prime Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, at a press conference

● *It is the Congress(I) that initially backed and instigated the movement.*
■ PRAFULLA KUMAR MAHANTA, Assam chief minister, on the Bodo agitation, in *The Telegraph*

● *If the temple is not built in Ayodhya, should it be built in London or New York?*
■ L.K. ADVANI, BJP president

● *I don't agree with everything the militants in Punjab stand for but I like their methods.*
■ KANSHI RAM, BSP president, in *The Sunday Observer*

● *The president (of the Janata Dal) has humiliated and degraded his own chair.*
■ SHAKEELUR REHMAN, MP, after being sacked as the Janata Dal vice-president, in *Surya India*

● *These people (the National Front Government) seemed to realise that you can't stand still in this world and that the trend is towards liberalisation.*
■ RAJAN PILLAI, chairman of Britannia Industries, in *Asiaweek*

● *This is a sign of manhood.*
■ OM PRAKASH CHAUTALA on why everybody is against him, in *Newstrack*

● *I was not as good as Sachin (Tendulkar) at that age. He is a marvel. He plays straight and with such confidence. He is God's gift to world cricket and will surely play for another 15-20 years.*
■ MUSHTAQ MOHAMMED, the youngest cricketer to score a Test century, at Edgbaston

● *I am not worried because I am P.T. Usha.*
■ P.T. USHA on her defeat by Ashwini Nachappa, in *Sportstar*

● *A good actor with a mediocre director is like James Bond with his licence to kill, cancelled.*
■ AAMIR KHAN in *Movie*

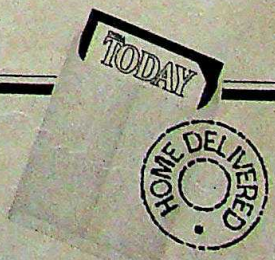
Moving ? New Address ?

Don't miss out on your subscriber copies of *INDIA TODAY* — just because you've moved to a new address. Help us to reach your copy to you — without a break — by filling in the coupon below and sending it to us at least six weeks before you move.

Mail to :
Subscriber Service Cell
Living Media India Ltd.
P.O. Box 706
Faridabad 121 007

Non-Stop Delivery Coupon

My name: _____
_____
(Block letters)
My subscription no. _____
_____
My present address _____
_____
_____
_____ Pin: _____
My new address: _____
_____
_____
_____ Pin: _____



O&M/696

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

EPIC BLUES

■ The gods must be crazy or at least that's what the clients of a cable TV operator in Junagadh, Gujarat thought as they settled down in front of their sets early last month to watch Sagar's *Ramayan*.

Shortly after the serial began the town's pious pop-

ulace shot out of their seats in horror. For what was unfolding before their eyes was certainly not the epic penned by Valmiki. Instead, a different saga of love—a *Kamlila* of sorts—began with amorous scenes from the Khajuraho temples in all its naked splendour.

The shocked viewers called the police who headed for the video parlour from where the film had been rented. There they discovered that the parlour owners, in an attempt to pull the wool over the censors' eyes, were concealing X-rated films under religious titles. Now, the miscreants are spreading their message of free love from a prison cell.

SNAKE SCARE

■ Manager, there is a snake in the records. This was the cry heard recently in the corridors of a nationalised bank in Hyderabad.

The case wasn't one of discrepancies in the bank's books; it involved the presence of a real cobra in the premises. Obviously tired of its hand to mouth existence the snake had decided to try its luck in the bank.

On seeing it, the bank staff flung down their pens and sent for the *been*-toting snake charmer. Despite his low credit-rating he has become the bank's most valued customer: over the last month four snakes have been caught. The theory

that the snakes were planted by someone who didn't want to bank on the efficiency of the staff is yet to be confirmed.

Meanwhile, in an attempt to save their skins the staff are now operating outside the bank's premises. Snakes in the grass, it seems, are preferable to snakes in the record room.

THE RAJ RETURNS

■ The British Raj lives on. Such was the startling discovery made by veteran freedom fighter, Laxmi Sehgal, a captain in Subhash Chandra Bose's revolutionary Indian National Army.

Recently when her application for a passport

was turned down, Sehgal discovered that her name was on the list of 'dangerous' persons. Further investigations revealed that the intelligence officials of her home town, Kanpur, hadn't updated their lists, 43 years after Independence. The lists, therefore, still contained the names of people who posed a threat to national security—British, of course, not Indian.

In a manner reminiscent of her pre-Independence actions, Sehgal soon set about clearing the intelligence files of the cobwebs they had gathered. Now the freedom fighter has her passport in hand. And the sun, it seems, has finally set on the British empire.

FISHY BUSINESS

■ Not all sailors are seaworthy, some prefer to walk on solid ground. Such was the case of two fishermen of Quilandy, a small town in north Kerala.

Recently the duo went on a fishing trip and never came back. The people of Quilandy reported the matter to the authorities and frantic search parties were launched. But to no avail.

Two days later the authorities received a phone call from a shop owner in another town Beypore—the missing fishermen were alive—sipping tea in his shop. The two had landed in

Beypore by mistake where they decided to sell their catch. Having earned Rs 1,300 they went on a buying, eating and drinking spree—making waves.

The only people not too pleased to see them were the authorities. The search operation had cost them a whopping Rs 25,000.

GIVEN THE BOOT

■ The glamorous MP from Madhya Pradesh, Uma Bharati, was recently forced to resort to strong arm tactics with the policemen of her own constituency.

Three constables were out on their rounds, collecting *hafta* (weekly bribe).

When one truck driver demurred, the constables began to apply their favourite method of influencing people—brute force.

The MP who was passing by cottoned on to what was happening. In a trice she pulled off her chappals and brandishing them like a trident set upon the erring trio, dealing out a series of resounding blows.

When the matter reached the higher authorities, they had no choice but to take the policemen to task. There seems to be a moral in this for crooked policemen: it doesn't pay to be dishonest, at least when lady politicians are around.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Golden moments. McDowell moments

Unmistakably No.1... McDowell's

McDowell's
THE SODA WITH SPIRIT

0.78608

Gurukul Kangri University, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

THE GOVERNMENT

UP FOR GRABS

INDIA TODAY commissioned MARG (Marketing & Research Group), the leading independent market research company, to conduct a nation-wide opinion poll, similar to the accurate one conducted before the 1989 general elections (INDIA TODAY, November 30, 1989). This is the sixth in a series conducted by MARG at six monthly intervals.

More than 100 MARG interviewers travelled to about 250 locations across the country between August 8 and 16, interviewing 10,239 registered voters. The exercise was supervised by Geeta Das of MARG.

The constituencies for the opinion poll were selected by well-known psephologist Prannoy Roy. Assisted by Namrata Harish, Roy analysed the data and projected the findings across the various swing zones to calculate the number of seats likely to be won by the Congress(I).

Once again, interviewers carried miniature ballot boxes and electors were asked to insert a ballot paper into the box indicating their voting intention. The proportion of 'Don't knows' and refusals was quite low at 9.6 per cent.

The opinion poll covers a question on voting intention, a number of questions on subjects of continuing interest such as prices and communalism and some of topical value such as the performance of the Government and the dismissal of Devi Lal.

The poll findings are reported by Prannoy Roy and MARG.

The latest INDIA TODAY-MARG poll indicates a natio wide disappointment with the performance of the Nation Front Government. However, it also suggests that th Congress(I) has been unable to capitalise on this decline the National Front's popularity. The swing in favour of th Congress(I) is only 2 per cent, giving it an additional 40 seat Consequently, the poll suggests that if an election were to b held now the Congress(I) would win 236 seats—well short the 265 seat halfway mark—and the National Front, alo with its allies, would lose its majority. It would take realignment of political parties for anyone to form government.

But the situation could swing in favour of the Congress if the electoral understanding between the National Fro and its allies, the BJP and the Left parties, broke down. In su an event Rajiv Gandhi would romp back to Race Cour Road with a comfortable majority—283 seats—on his ow Together with allies, Rajiv could find himself with a tally excess of 300 seats.

V.P. Singh emerges as the undisputed leader of his par and is seen as competent. Voters do not perceive him a weak and indecisive prime minister. On the contrary, style of politics is seen as clever and tough. But surprising V.P. Singh still trails Rajiv Gandhi on a one-to-one compa son. Incidentally, the poll was conducted after Devi La sacking (which strengthened his image of being clever a

Tables by MAHENDRA RATH

SEAT FORECAST

*All India 529 Seats	Non-Congress Parties		
	Present Position	United	Non United
National Front	144	127	90
BJP	86	73	61
CPI/CPI(M)	43	42	40
OTHERS	11	10	10
TOTAL (National Front + Allies)	284	252	201
Congress(I)	194	236	283
Congress Allies	15	18	18
TOTAL (Congress + Allies)	209	254	301
OTHERS	36	23	27
TOTAL	529	529	529

*Total seats (excluding Assam) 529

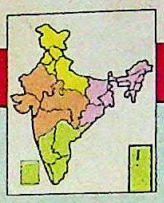
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

tough) but before the Government accepted the controversial recommendations of the Mandal Commission.

While the prime minister's image has not suffered, the National Front Government's popularity has taken a beating: for its inability to contain inflationary trends and the unending internecine intra-party battles. In sum, the Government has belied expectations aroused at the time of the elections. But the Congress(I) has not been able to cash in on the failings of the National Front, as evidenced by the relatively small swing in its favour.

Nor has the BJP been able to capitalise on the National Front's indifferent showing. In fact, if an election were held tomorrow, it is likely to lose seats. This can perhaps be attributed to the BJP being identified too closely with the Government in the Hindi belt—the area where the Congress(I) has gained. Yet, the poll shows that BJP President L.K. Advani is a major asset for the party. Along with V.P. Singh and Rajiv Gandhi, Advani emerges as a significant force, especially in north India. The CPI(M) has escaped almost unscathed because its strength in West Bengal has not been affected by the National Front Government's performance.



CONGRESS(I) STRENGTH IN LOK SABHA

	126 Seats THE NORTH	132 Seats THE SOUTH	128 Seats THE EAST	143 Seats THE WEST	Total Congress(I) Seats	Total Lok Sabha Seats	% of Seats
1990 Forecast	48	101	34	53	236	529	44.6
1989 Actual	26	108	21	40	195*	529*	36.9
1989 Forecast	28	80	24	63	195	529	36.9
1984	114	71	96	134	415	542	76.6

*Including results from 4 countermanded seats where byelections were held later

ALL ABOUT V.P. SINGH

IN the last four months, Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh and the National Front Government have been buffeted by a number of shocks and crises, both major and minor. The biggest crisis, which nearly broke up the Janata Dal, was of course precipitated by the conduct of the now sacked deputy prime minister Devi Lal and his son Om Prakash Chautala. Other problems which possibly affected voters' perceptions of the prime minister's performance are the escalating prices throughout the country and the Government's failure to check the increasing militancy in the strife-torn areas of Kashmir, Punjab and Assam.

PRIME MINISTER'S PERFORMANCE

V.P. Singh ALL-INDIA (Aug 90)	29	42	29
Rajiv Gandhi ALL-INDIA (Aug 89)	38	40	22

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

AVERAGE PERFORMANCE

ON the issue of the overall performance of Prime Minister V.P. Singh in the nine months he has been in office only 29 per cent of the voters rate him as good. Surprisingly, an equal proportion, 29 per cent, consider his performance as bad. This is worse than the assessment of former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi's performance in August 1989 (which, incidentally, was one of his worst ratings). This should cause V.P. Singh considerable concern since he has not even completed a year in office so far. Another interesting finding of the opinion poll was that V.P. Singh's rating is particularly poor in the Janata Dal's bastion, the north, where the party rules the electorally crucial states of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. This could well be because the north has also been the arena for most of the squabbles which have shaken up the infant Janata Dal with worrying regularity.

PERFORMANCE vs EXPECTATIONS

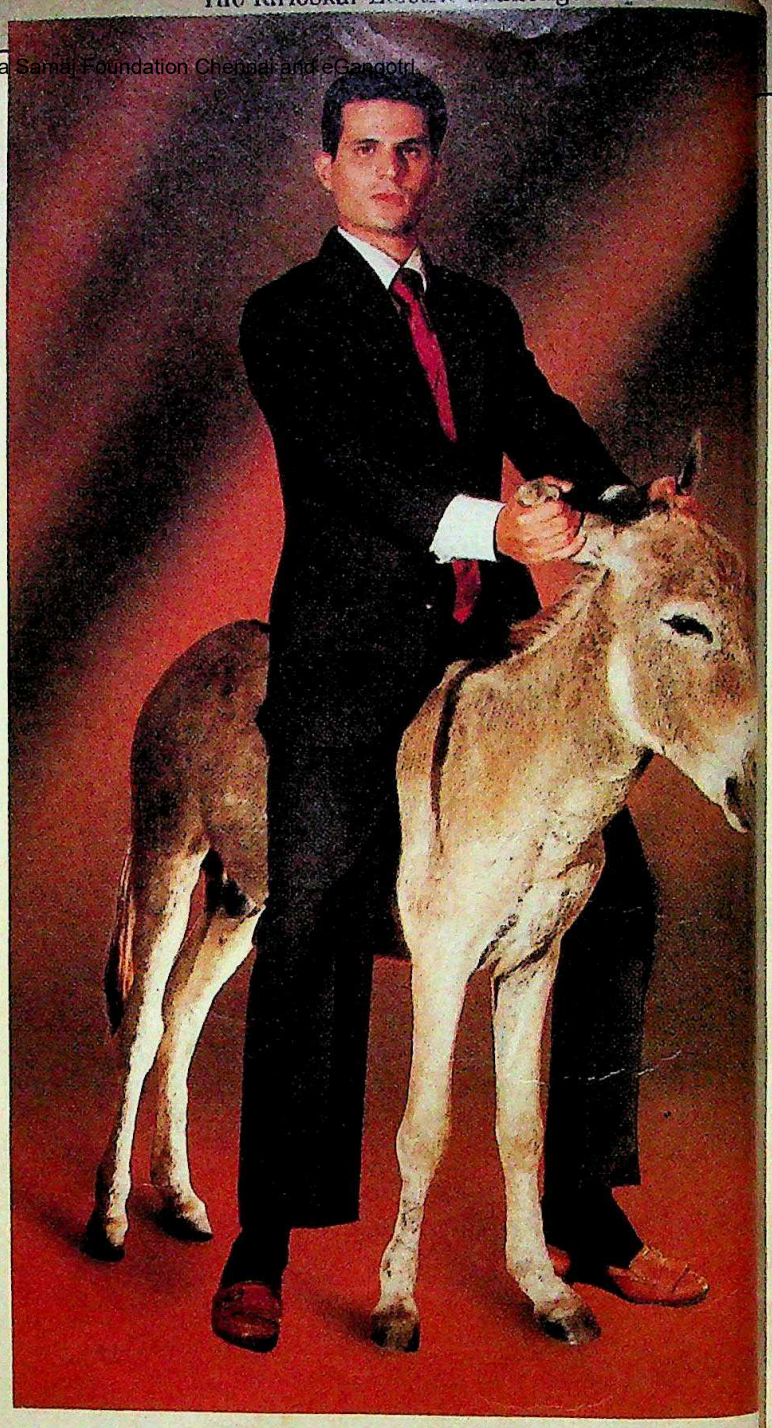
	Better than expected	Worse than expected	As expected
V.P. Singh ALL-INDIA (Aug 90)	25	45	30
Rajiv Gandhi ALL-INDIA (Aug 90)	40	32	28

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

THE ESSENCE OF LEADERSHIP IS OFTEN NOTHING BUT SHEER CUSSEDNESS.



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Tell Kirloskar Electric a job can't be done and it's like showing a red rag to a bull. We can't resist it. But all the engineering genius in the world can come to nought without sheer staying power Once we take on a job, we never give up.

Take just one instance. The 125 KW DC roller table motors for the blooming and slabbing mill at the Bokaro Steel Plant. The original motors, imported from Russia over twenty years ago needed to be replaced. What made the job really difficult was the fact that the new replacements had to be interchangeable, both mechanically and electrically, with the originals. And yet perform better.

As they say in electrical circles, when everybody else shies away, get Kirloskar Electric. The Bokaro people called us. Picture the scene. 35 tonnes of red hot iron billets, each following on the heels of the previous one, at a temperature of 1000°C, crashing on rollers and then travelling at murderous speeds to be sprayed by jets of water.

We watched and studied the drives for weeks, then got back and made a detailed proposal with designs. Go back, they said. They had raised the ante. The motors had now to work for at least 8 hours at a time even if the supply of cooling air was stopped. We had to raise the output without changing the physical dimensions an iota. We re-designed the whole motor with a far superior insulation scheme and excellent heat transfer capability.

End of story? Hardly. Our prototype failed. One of the windings overheated by 30° Kelvin and the commutation ability of the machine was poor.

Throw in the towel, everyone told us. No way, we said. We went back to work with a vengeance. Now listen to this. In 10 days, yes 10 days flat, we re-designed the windings. We have after all, perhaps the finest electrical design engineers in the country.

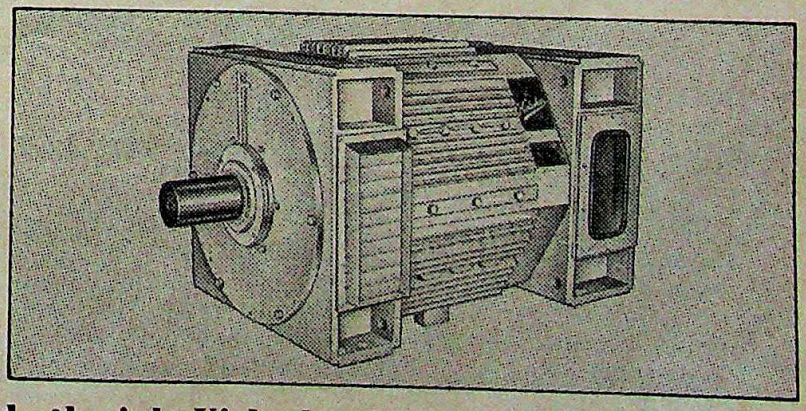
Those motors are working just fine. And they saved a substantial amount of foreign exchange.

But Kirloskar Electric is more than the sum of all the firsts it has earned over the years. We are India's leading industrial electrics and electronics company in the private sector. We make some of the finest standard AC and DC drives, transformers, welding equipment and systems, motorised gear units, equipment for defence, electronic control equipment, CNCs etc. But the one single reason why we are the prime movers in our field is because the centre of gravity at Kirloskar Electric is the customer. Our hi-tech, engineering expertise, superior quality and reliability are all geared to anticipate and respond to his needs.

KIRLOSKAR ELECTRIC CO. LTD.

INDUSTRIAL ELECTRICS AND ELECTRONICS

Regd. Office : Industrial Suburb, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560 010.



When nobody else can do the job, Kirloskar Electric will.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

RAJIV GANDHI GETS THE NOD

OVER the years, pollsters in India and abroad have noticed that the incumbent chief executive of a nation (President or prime minister) normally fetches higher rating than the leader of the opposition.

This trend is more evident during the early part of the President or prime minister's term. Therefore, if all were going well for him, V.P. Singh should be topping the popularity charts.

It is therefore a sign of troubled times for him that so early in his reign, disenchantment with his prime ministership appears to be setting in. For though Rajiv Gandhi may be out of power, a somewhat greater proportion of the population appear to believe that he would make a better prime minister than V.P. Singh.

Moreover, Rajiv gets more solid backing from Congress(I) supporters than does V.P. Singh from his—another cause for concern for the prime minister.

A year back, in August 1989, V.P. Singh was no match for Rajiv. Now, after nine months as prime minister, V.P. Singh has managed to narrow the gap. But he still continues to trail Rajiv.

V.P. SINGH vs RAJIV: BETTER PM

	V.P. Singh Better	Rajiv Better	Both Equal
ALL-INDIA (Aug 90)	36	44	20
ALL-INDIA (Aug 89)	25	67	8

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentage

NO CONTENDERS WITHIN PARTY

IT may, however, come as a consolation to V.P. Singh that his major rivals for leadership in the Janata Dal find little support among the electorate.

Neither the rustic former deputy prime minister Devi Lal nor the one-time Young Turk Chandra Shekhar who has presented the picture of a disgruntled leader pose any real challenge to V.P. Singh's prime ministership.

While the Tau does relatively better among people with rural post office addresses, even here V.P. Singh is streets ahead of him: he has 73 per cent of the electorate with him vs 16 per cent who back Devi Lal, perhaps the only major leader who has made the village his battle-cry.

Interestingly, both Devi Lal and Chandra Shekhar h somewhat greater support among Congress(I) voters t among their own backers.

Another interesting finding of the poll is that leade the BJP and the CPI(M), 'allied' parties on whom the Nati Front Government depends for survival are more accept as prime minister than either Devi Lal or the other aspi Chandra Shekhar.

BJP President L.K. Advani is the choice of 29 per cent (Singh is of 55 per cent), while the Marxist West Bengal C Minister Jyoti Basu is backed by 19 per cent. In the east, Basu has naturally much more popular support than in other regions and is neck-and-neck with V.P.Singh in prime ministerial stakes.

WHO WOULD MAKE A BETTER PRIME MINISTER?

	V.P. Singh	Devi Lal	V.P. Singh	Chandra-shekhar-	V.P. Singh	L.K. Advani	V.P. Singh	Jyoti Basu
ALL-INDIA	75	14	70	16	55	29	68	19
Rural	73	16	68	17				
Urban	78	9	72	14				
Non-Cong(I) Voters	80	12	76	12				
Cong(I) Voters	69	17	61	22				

Both equal figures are excluded from the chart ('Don't knows' excluded/All figures in percentage

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

METHOD IN APPARENT WEAKNESS

WHILE many political commentators believe the prime minister is weak and indecisive, others feel there is a method in this apparent weakness, and that it hides his toughness and astuteness. The findings of the INDIA TODAY-MARG poll indicate that a clear majority shares the latter view. While Congress(I) backers are somewhat divided in their opinion, non-Congress(I) voters overwhelmingly view the prime minister as tough and clever.

V.P. SINGH: WEAK OR TOUGH?

	Weak & Indecisive	Tough & Clever
ALL-INDIA	31	69

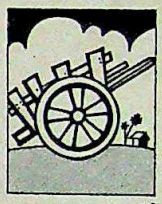
('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

V.P. SINGH: PRO-RURAL/PRO-URBAN

	Pro Rural	Pro Urban	Neither
ALL-INDIA	19	25	56
Rural	18	30	52
Urban	20	16	64

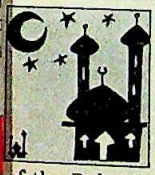
('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

A NEUTRAL PRIME MINISTER



SURPRISINGLY, though Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh has many a time been projected as more of an urban leader, the opinion poll findings reveal that an amazing 56 per cent of voters throughout the country view him as neither pro-urban nor pro-rural. Among the rest, just about 25 per cent consider the prime minister pro-urban while 19 per cent regard him as pro-rural. However, the majority of both urban and rural voters in the north as well as the south feel that V.P. Singh is neutral. In fact, most of them are of the view that the prime minister cannot be identifed with either of these attitudes. Significantly, the distinction between the urban and rural has been made sharp by former deputy prime minister Devi Lal's shrill anti-urban rhetoric in recent times.

THE COMMUNAL ISSUE



THE Congress(I) according to many political observers tried to let the communal situation drift during the crucial pre-election days in the hope that the minorities would back them. But the strategy boomeranged. Now again in the midst of the Babri Masjid-Ram Janmabhoomi controversy, V.P. Singh has succeeded in maintaining his credentials as an even-handed leader. This view is held nearly as widely by Hindus as by Muslims.

PRO-HINDU OR PRO-MUSLIM?

	Pro Hindu	Pro Muslim	Even Handed
ALL-INDIA	13	8	79

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

WILL THE GOVERNMENT LAST?

	Upto 6 months	6 Months to 2 yrs	Full term
ALL-INDIA	22	29	49
Cong(I) Voters	10	23	67
Non-Cong(I) Voters	36	37	27

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

THE NATIONAL FRONT GOVERNMENT

THE National Front Government has now been in power for nine turbulent months marked by at least two occasions when the Government came close to collapsing. The INDIA TODAY-MARG poll sought to obtain views on its performance.

About half the electorate expects the Government to last its full term, but 22 per cent expect it to fall in the next six months. Predictably, Congress(I) voters do not expect the Government to last long but two-thirds of non-Congress(I) backers, expect the Government to run its full course in spite of the fact that internal bickerings created major crises within the Janata Dal and ultimately resulted in the deputy prime minister being dropped from the cabinet.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

AUTHORISED DEALERS

UTTAR PRADESH

☐ **ALLAHABAD:** M/s. Gur Prasad Hira Lal Jain, Jain Bhawan Chowk • M/s. Novelty House, 6-C, Kamla Nehru Road, Near Power House • M/s. Alka Enterprises, 30, M.G. Road, Civil Line, • M/s. Jain Trading Co. 1143, Katra Crossing, • M/s. S. Naseem Ahmed & Co. 144, Chowk, ☐ **AGRA:** M/s. Agra Bartan Bhandar, 30/113, Azad Gali, Kaserath Bazar, • M/s. Ahuja Bartan Bhandar, Kaserath Bazar, • M/s. Oswal Bartan Bhandar, Daulat Market, Jauhri Bazar, ☐ **ANPARA:** M/s. Moti Radio Centre, ☐ **ALIGARH:** M/s. Jai Deepak Bartan Bhandar, Mahavir Ganj, • M/s. Lila Dhar Babu Lal, Mahavir Ganj, Chowk Bazar, • M/s. Deepak Bartan Bhandar, Subhash Bazar, Railway Road,
☐ **BEHRAICH:** M/s. Shyam Lal & Sons, Chowk Bazar,
☐ **BANDA:** M/s. Bengal Crockery House, Goosi Ganj,
☐ **BALLIA:** M/s. Vijay Gun House, Station Road,
☐ **BASTI:** M/s. Sushil Kumar Bartan Merchant, Mangle Bazar, ☐ **DEORIA:** M/s. Om Stores, Near Kotwali, Moti Lal Road, ☐ **DEHRADUN:** M/s. Satya Parkash & Co. 70/5, Paltan Bazar, • M/s. Kapital Stores, 99, Paltan Bazar, • M/s. Data Ram Vinod Kumar, Dhanwala,
☐ **FARRUKHABAD:** M/s. Raj Glass & Crockery Stores, Nehru Road, • M/s. Salig Ram Bhola Nath Bartan Store, Chowk Bazar, ☐ **GORAKHPUR:** M/s. Amar Crockery Centre, Maya Bazar, Kotwali Road, • M/s. Ganeshi Lal Ram Niwas Agencies, Gole Ghar, • M/s. Modern Crockery Museum, 18, Water Works Building, Gole Ghar, • M/s. Fancy Bartan Stores, Reti Chowk, • M/s. Vijay Agencies, 16, 17, Town Hall Market • M/s. Ganeshi Lal & Sons, Cinema Road, • M/s. Shri Ganesh Enterprises, 16, Water Works Building, ☐ **HARDOI:** M/s. Shyam Lal & Sons, Railway Ganj, • M/s. Kashi Ram Banwari Lal, Railway Ganj, ☐ **HALDWANI:** M/s. Sardar Crockery House, Nanital Road, ☐ **HAPUR:** M/s. Crockery Centre, Railway Road, ☐ **JHANSI:** M/s. Kashi Parsad Mithley Saran, Sarrafa Bazar, • M/s. Bombay Steel Emporium, 175 Jawahar Chowk, ☐ **JAUNPUR:** M/s. Glass Stores, Har Lalka Road, ☐ **KANPUR:** M/s. Asia Light House, Meston Road, • M/s. S.M. Rasheed & Sons, 43/205, Meston Road, • M/s. Gopi Lal Gupta & Co. 46/63, Hatya, • M/s. Laxmi Bartan Stores, 108/130, Sisamau Bazar, • M/s. M/s. Nafis Crockery House, Mool Ganj, • M/s. Kumar Fancy Stores, 114, Navin Market, • M/s. Mohd. Hanif Mohd. Anis, Meston Road, • M/s. Krishna Kumar Umesh Chandra, 68/10 Bhoosa Toli, • M/s. Rastogi Steel Centre, 67/5 Hula Ganj, ☐ **LUCKNOW:** M/s. Kanhaya Lal Parag Das, Pili Kothi, Yahya Ganj, • M/s. Inder Chand Jain & Sons, Aminabad, • M/s. Ram Saran & Co., Aminabad, • M/s. Sansar Agencies, Mumtaj Market, • M/s. Chaman Lal Aggarwal & Sons, Nazirabad, ☐ **LAKHIMPUR KHERI:** M/s. Amber Lal Radhey Shyam, Champa Bhawan, Main Bazar, ☐ **MEERUT:** M/s. Shakun Bartan Bhandar, Begum Bridge, • M/s. Data Ram Gupta & Sons, Valley Bazar, • M/s. Krishna Crockery & Departmental Store, Sadar Bazar, • M/s. Sona Electric Agency, 184, Sadar Bazar, ☐ **NAJIBABAD:** M/s. Shyam Lal & Sons, Chowk, ☐ **MUZAFFAR NAGAR:** M/s. Mittal Enterprises, 101 Bhagat Singh Road, ☐ **RAMPUR:** M/s. Aggarwal Crockery House, Meston Ganj, • M/s. Selection Emporium, 22, Safdar Ganj, ☐ **RAI-BAREILLY:** M/s. Gupta Traders, Kapar Ganj, • M/s. Radhey Shyam Ghan Shyam Dass Gupta, Malkhana, • M/s. Raj Bartan Milan Cinema Road, ☐ **RUPAIDIHA:** M/s. Ram Store, P.O. Rupaidiha, • M/s. Shri Ram Stores, P.O. Rupaidiha, ☐ **SAHARANPUR:** M/s. Nihal Chand Harbans Lal, 15 Nehru Market, • M/s. Jaswant Rai Narender Kumar, Laxmi Market,
☐ **SHAHJAHANPUR :** M/s. Sehgal Gift Centre Govind Ganj, • M/s. Sehgal Crockeries, Sadar Bazar,
☐ **SHAMLI:** M/s. Shugan Chand Sohan Lal, Bara Bazar, ☐ **SULTANPUR:** M/s. Kamali Chalni House Shah Ganj, • M/s. Dashrath Lal & Sons, Chowk Th
☐ **VARANASI:** M/s. Bharat Glass Stores, Dal M • M/s. Ideal Glass House, Dal Mandi, • M/s. Mittal Traders, D-11/8, Kotwal Pura, Bans Phatak, • M/s. Girdhar Dass & Sons, Bans Phatak, • M/s. Mohan Krishan Chand, D-10/15 Vishwanath Lane, • M/s. Stainless Steel Centre, Bans Phatak • M/s. Glass & Plywood Centre, CK/39/9, Dal Mandi, ☐ **MORADABAD:** M/s. Navin Glass Agency, Katra Puran Jat, Ganj Bazar, ☐ **GONDA:** M/s. Paras Stores Emporium, Utrauli Road,

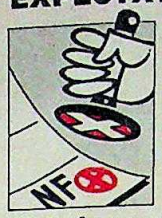
CALCUTTA

☐ **CALCUTTA:** M/s. Krishna Trading Co., P-11, Chitpur Spur,

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

EXPECTATIONS UNFULFILLED



AFTER surviving two major crises and also a situation in which the prime minister also expressed his willingness to resign, it is not surprising that the level of contentment with the Government is not high. Around 50 per cent of those interviewed are disappointed with its performance. But considering the timing of the survey, it is perhaps a positive factor for the government that 21 per cent felt that the National Front Government has performed better than expected. But a negative aspect is that the dissatisfaction and disappointment is most in the north and the east, which is considered a Janata Dal bastion where three of its governments (Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Orissa) are located. Expectedly, Congress(I) backers are much more critical of the Government than non-Congress(I) voters.

PERFORMANCE vs EXPECTATIONS

	Better than expected	Worse than expected	As expected
ALL-INDIA	21	49	30
Non-Congress(I) Voters	29	35	36
Congress(I) Voters	13	63	24

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

GOVERNMENT vs OPPOSITION

THE National Front Government is seen as effective as the Rajiv Gandhi Government in handling the Punjab and Kashmir problems and in ensuring communal harmony. In fact a rather surprising fact is that the Congress(I) government has a slight edge over the present government on the crucial question of ensuring communal harmony, which was an issue during the last elections. But on the 'bread and butter' issues of controlling prices and reducing unemployment, more voters see the Congress(I) government as a better bet.

NATIONAL FRONT GOVERNMENT vs CONGRESS(I) GOVERNMENT

	NF Govt Better	Cong(I) Govt Better	Both Equal
Controlling prices	18	58	24
Reducing unemployment	21	41	38
Solving the Punjab problem	33	33	34
Solving the Kashmir problem	32	34	34
Ensuring communal harmony	30	36	34

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

DISMISSAL OF DEVI LAL

ONE of the opinion poll's surprising finds was that the vast majority of the electorate—both in urban areas and in rural areas all over the country—was not at all unhappy with Prime Minister V.P. Singh's decision to remove former deputy prime minister Devi Lal from the Union Cabinet.

DEVI LAL'S REMOVAL

	Agrees with PM	Disagrees with PM
ALL-INDIA	74	26
Rural	72	28
Urban	78	22

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ISSUES FACING THE COUNTRY

ANOTHER finding of the opinion poll was that a vast majority both in the north and south considered rising prices as the main issue facing the country. Corruption followed inflation as the second major problem. Interestingly, it is in the northern parts of the country that inflation is cited most often as the main problem. Expectedly, inflation is a problem that concerns a far greater proportion of women, who have to run the house, than men. Surprisingly, it is only a small section of people that considers the burning issues of communalism and terrorism to be the main problem facing the country.

MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEM?

	Communalism	Terrorism	Prices	Corruption
ALL-INDIA	11	13	54	22
Men	14	15	46	25
Women	8	10	63	19

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

PUNJAB PROBLEM: HOW HANDLED

	Very Well	Well	Badly	Very Badly
ALL-INDIA	6	44	37	13
ALL-INDIA (Aug 89)	11	46	28	15

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

THE PUNJAB PROBLEM

ANOTHER interesting finding is that half the electorate believes the Punjab problem is being handled well even though there seems to be no light at the end of the tunnel. However, this trend is not uniform showing that the perception of the problem among the electorate varies across the country. For in the north, fewer than 40 per cent are satisfied. Despite V.P. Singh's personal efforts at resolving the problem, including the much applauded visit to the state soon after he took over, the Rajiv Gandhi government's efforts last August were rated somewhat better than the National Front Government's effort at finding a way out of the Punjab problem.

THE KASHMIR PROBLEM

AROUND half the voters backed the Government on the Kashmir problem. While three quarters of them blamed Pakistan, the consensus was that India should resolve this problem peacefully.

KASHMIR PROBLEM: HOW HANDLED

	Very Well	Well	Badly	Very Badly
ALL-INDIA	6	40	36	18

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

KASHMIR: IS PAK RESPONSIBLE?

	Yes	No
ALL-INDIA	76	24

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

KASHMIR: WHO WILL WIN THE WAR?

	India with ease	India with difficulty	India lose
ALL-INDIA	61	37	2

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

KASHMIR: GO TO WAR WITH PAK

	Go to War	Resolve Peacefully
ALL-INDIA	36	64

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

BJP AND THE LEFT

Sanguine Supporters

Janata Dal allies put some of their ideological differences behind them and rethink their future strategy to avert the possibility of a mid-term poll

A crumbling edifice, a squabbling house with personalities pitched against each other, rests increasingly on the two pillars of the Left and Right—the BJP and the communist parties. But the recent crises engulfing the Janata Dal has shaken the confidence of both the Left and the Right and triggered off serious rethinking about their future strategy—if and when the National Front Government falls.

BJP supremo L.K. Advani is almost certain the end will come sooner than later. The only silver lining for him lies in the vindication of his stand in not joining the Government, but giving it support from the outside. Says he: "If we'd joined them, all these feuds would have been related to us."

The mood in the Left camp is equally glum. The CPI(M)'s Saifuddin Chowdhury tries to see the brighter side of it when he says the people now know that the threat to the Government comes not from the Left or the Right but from the Janata Dal itself. But his colleague Somnath Chatterji is pessimistic. "Can we really keep this government alive?" he asks.

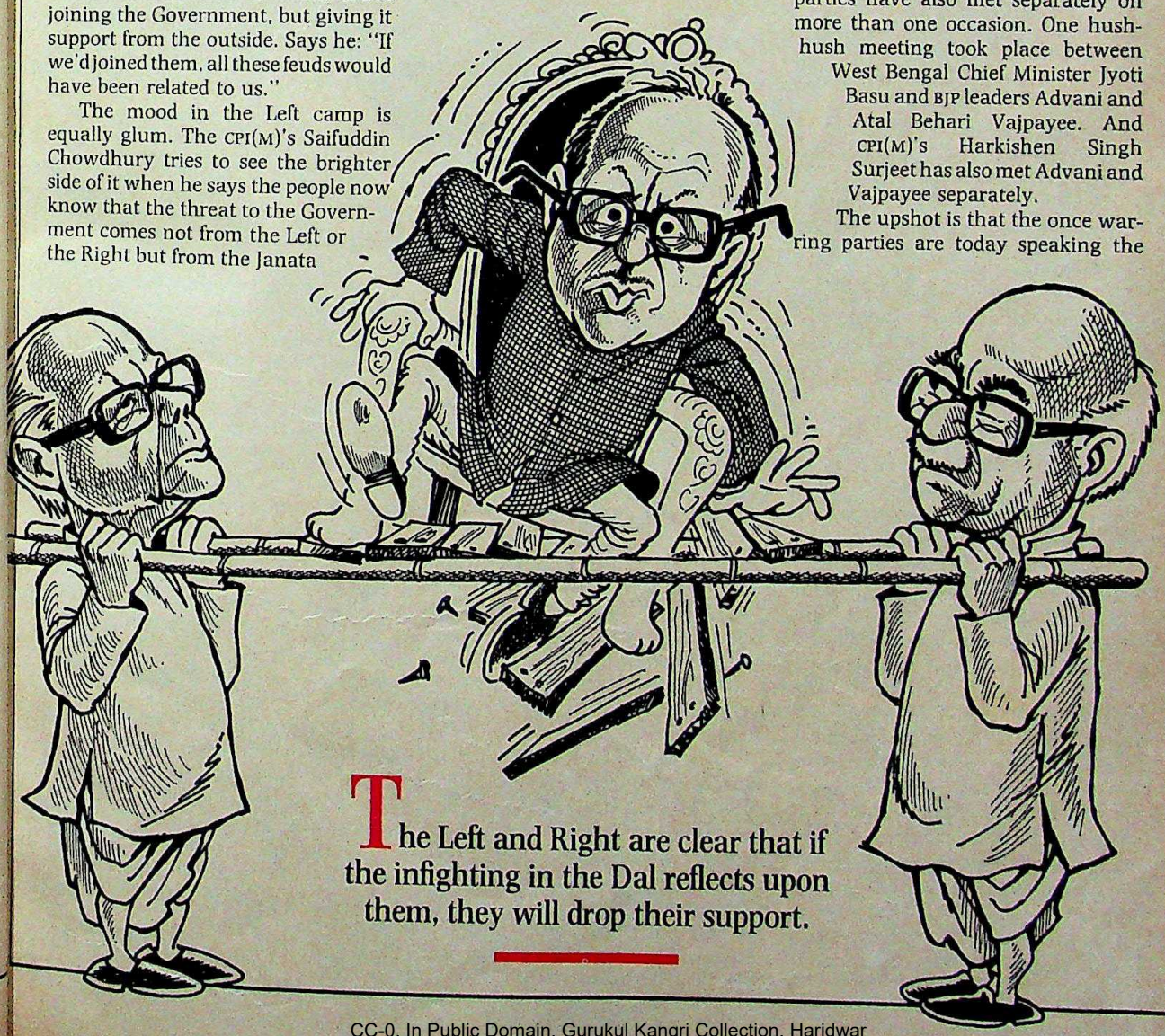
But political compulsions ensure that neither the Left nor the BJP have intentions of pulling out—at least not for the moment. CPI's Indrajit Gupta explains: "The alternative is a mid-term poll and risk having Rajiv back."

And as evidence of their resolve to keep the Government afloat, the ideologically opposed BJP and Left parties, which till eight months ago hurled abuse at each other, are today sitting across the table to thrash out issues and identify common concerns.

The meetings have taken many forms. One is the weekly meeting convened by Prime Minister V.P. Singh. Here most issues are discussed except contentious ones like Ram Janmabhoomi and Article 370. Aside from one instance when communalism came up and the harmony was replaced with acrimony, the meetings have been surprisingly cordial.

Besides meeting on neutral Janata Dal territory, leaders of the BJP and Left parties have also met separately on more than one occasion. One hush-hush meeting took place between West Bengal Chief Minister Jyoti Basu and BJP leaders Advani and Atal Behari Vajpayee. And CPI(M)'s Harkishen Singh Surjeet has also met Advani and Vajpayee separately.

The upshot is that the once warring parties are today speaking the



The Left and Right are clear that if the infighting in the Dal reflects upon them, they will drop their support.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

same language on some issues:

► The industrial policy: both groups have opposed the policy fearing unrestricted entry of multinationals.

► Rising prices: leaders from both sides have repeatedly asked the Government to curb the price rise.

► Devi Lal and Chautala: both oppose the father-son duo's politics.

► The Mandal Commission: though both the BJP and the Left claim to favour increased reservations, they are unanimous in stressing that the Government should have consulted other parties before deciding on the sensitive issue. Recently, when the Government was being flayed on this count in Parliament, Labour Minister Ram Vilas Paswan declared that the 540 members of the House did not constitute the country. Advani retorted that in that case, neither was the minority Government representative of the nation. The BJP leader was supported by the CPI(M)'s Somnath Chatterjee, who flayed Paswan's "confrontationist tone".

► The Delhi Statehood Bill: the BJP has agreed to the Left's demand of demarcating the constituencies.

But areas of complete disagreement, which could at any moment undo the tenuous alliance, remain:

► Kashmir: the two sides have opposing views on how the sensitive state should be handled, with the BJP backing a hardline—including scrapping of Article 370—and the Left for the political process.

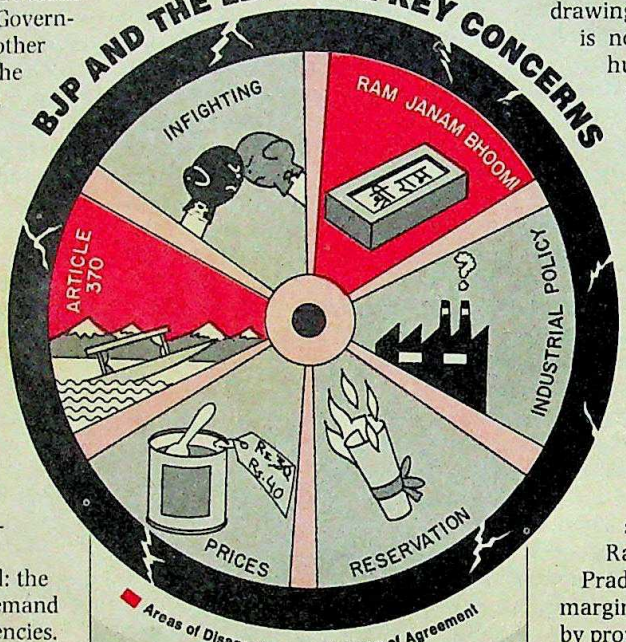
► Ayodhya: with the BJP backing the VHP's October 30 deadline for construction of the Ram temple, the issue could prove the flashpoint.

Issues which could have a communal fallout, therefore, are the ones on which there can never be a meeting ground between the Left and the BJP. Here, the fact that V.P. Singh has stood firm on Ayodhya and Article 370 weighs heavily with the CPI(M) and CPI, and leaders of both parties have made it clear that their support will be withdrawn the moment the Government changes tack on these issues. The police attack on CPI workers in Uttar Pradesh was deliberately not played up by the party because of Chief Minister Mulayam Singh Yadav's commitment to go by the court verdict in the temple-mosque tangle. Similarly, when a section in the Janata Dal launched a signature campaign against Yadav, the Left played a major role in impressing upon V.P. Singh the need to desist from such toppling games.

Crippled with a lack of organisation in the Hindi belt and most southern states—with the exception of Kerala—the Left appears to have given up the numbers game and sees itself as a pressure group that is using its good offices with the Government to carry on its campaign against communalism which is now its top ideological card. The Left also gains from this arrangement: its state governments are no longer discriminated against in the allotment of Central funds.

Though Left leaders refuse to describe themselves as the 'natural allies' of the National Front, they agree that the Front's manifesto is a "lesser" version of their own. Possibly because of this, in the game of alignments and realignments within the Janata Dal, the Left is a much sought after ally. Chandra Shekhar, Arun Nehru and others talk of various permutations with the Left as a partner all of which have been dismissed as ridiculous.

Chart by B.K. SHARMA



The BJP feels that the Janata Dal will wreck itself. The Left is content to be a pressure group in order to fight communalism.

The BJP's gameplan, on the other hand, is to use its support for the Government to extend its base and eventually strike out on its own. Unlike the Left, the BJP has no illusions about this government. Advani makes it clear he never offered unconditional support to the National Front, but only critical support. If the BJP is not withdrawing support now, it is because it is not yet ready to go to the hustings. But they are certain the Janata Dal will wreck itself and are preparing to face a mid-term poll.

More crucially, the BJP is working methodically towards building a base in areas like the east and south where it has virtually no presence. Hence, the decision to hold its recent national executive meeting in Madras, and the one before that in Calcutta.

And in the BJP-ruled states of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh, the party hopes to marginalise the centrist parties by providing more efficient administration.

That the interests of the BJP and the Janata Dal often clash is evident from events in two Dal-ruled states. In Haryana the BJP operates as a opposition, while in Uttar Pradesh, its unit is openly hostile to Mulayam Singh Yadav because of his stand on Ayodhya.

But because the BJP's central leadership knows this is not the right time to strike, it prefers to gloss over these differences. Though the BJP and the Janata Dal may be sharply opposed on the vital issues of Article 370 and Ayodhya, Advani says: "I have been telling my partymen that it is not proper for us to exert pressure. We should not expect this government to repeal Article 370."

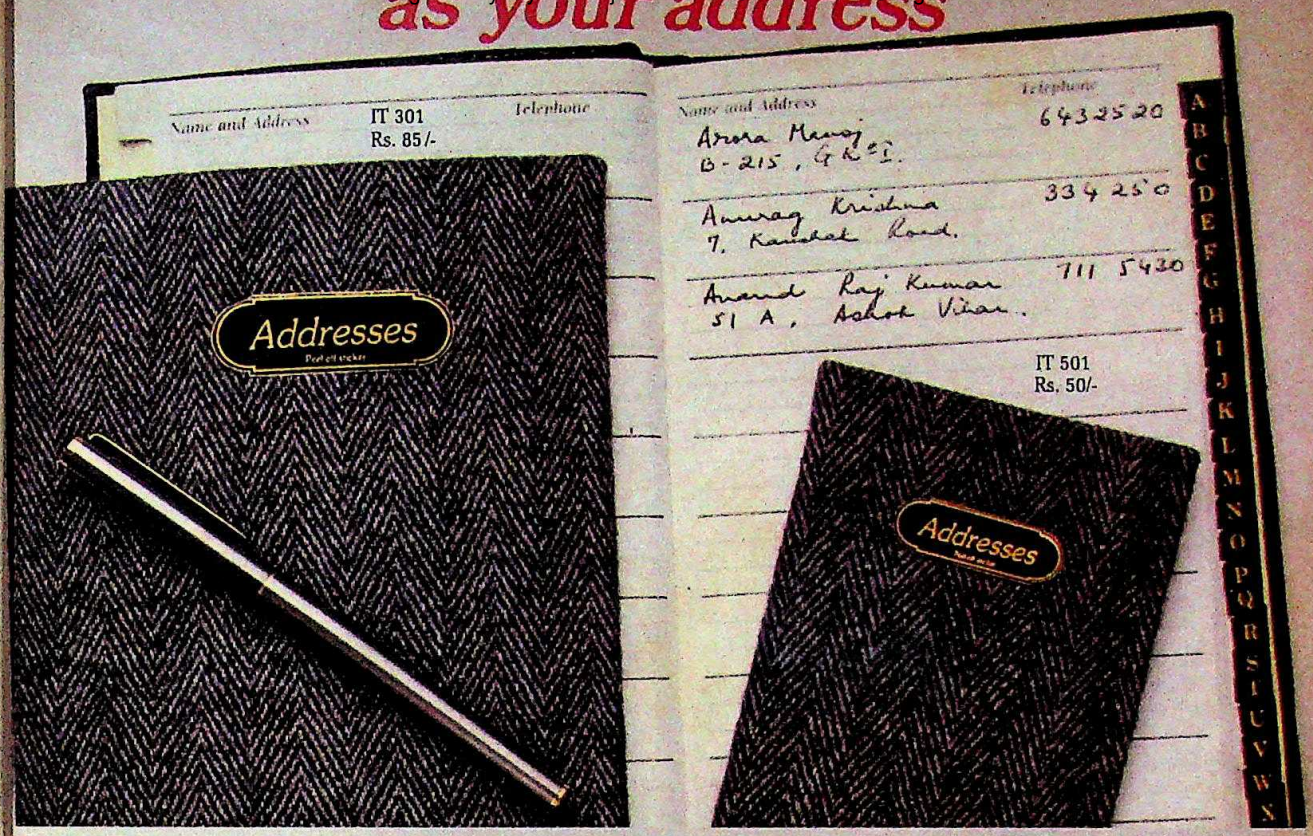
Though the Left and the BJP may be carrying the amorphous Janata Dal on their more disciplined, cadre-based shoulders, should any of the mud thrown up by the periodic bouts of infighting in the Dal stick to them, both sides are clear that they will immediately let go of this government and go back to the people.

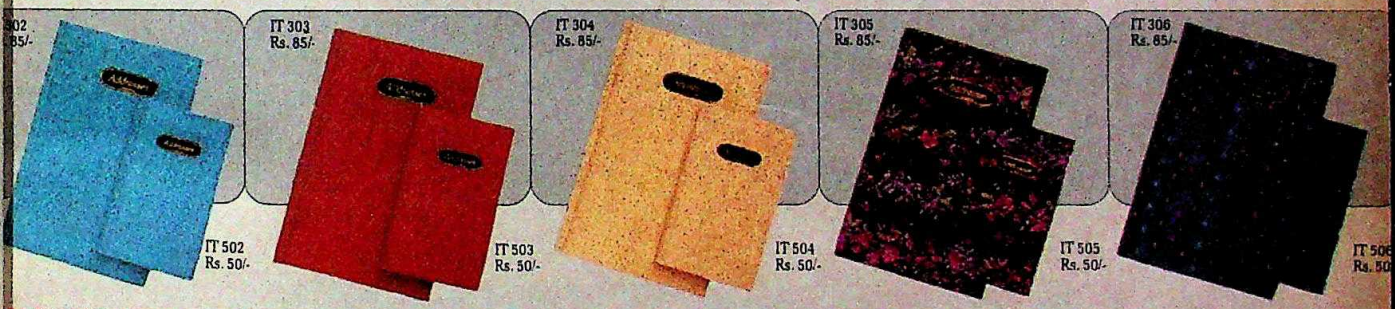
—SEEMA MUSTAFA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Address Books as distinctive as your address





IA TODAY ADDRESS BOOKS

hoice of Address Books for use in office or at home. Each Address k is attractively produced with a nctive fabric covering, specially gned to express your viduality.

de, each of these exclusive Address ks have room for 1380 names, esses and telephone numbers plete with alphabetical indexing. dy sections for personal rmation and emergency numbers. dy-to-use listing of ISD and STD es as well as the time around the ld.

dy Pocket Address Book

comprehensive range of Address ks is also available in a compact, -around size. With these compact ress Books you can carry the esses of 798 contacts, at all times our person.

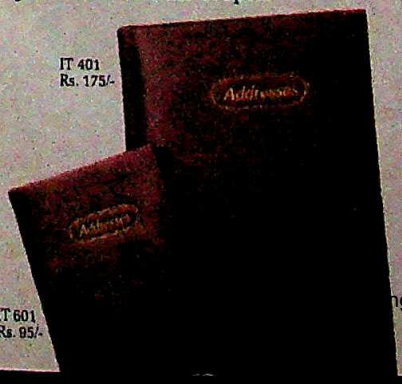
range includes:

rringbone tweed. (IT 301, 501)
h Bhagalpur silk in red, turquoise or beige. (IT 303, 503, IT 302, 502, IT 304, 504)
ditional cotton with woven fs on navy blue ground. (IT 306, 506)
ssic black rayon overprinted with icate floral design. (IT 305, 505)

The Richness of Leather: The luxury option of leather bound Regular and Pocket Address Books has also been introduced for the first time. Incorporating all the features of the fabric-bound set, these beautifully crafted Address Books have been meticulously finished to highlight the grain and texture of rich brown real leather.

Personalisation option:
Address Books can be further personalized with upto 3 initials, gold embossed at a nominal charge of Rs. 10/– per address book.

Make your selection now and send in your order with the coupon.



Please Note:

* Add Rs. 5/- for outstation cheques i.e. cheques outside Delhi.
* Cheques/Demand Drafts payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Delhi must be MICR only.
* Address books will be home delivered by Registered post/Courier. Please allow lead time of 6-8 weeks after placement of order for delivery.
* Extra for gold embossing of initials on the leather address books @ Rs. 10/- per address book.
* For gift instructions please give recipients name and address alongwith details for embossing initials (for leather address book) on a separate sheet.
* Prints and colours in the photographs are representative.

I enclose a crossed Cheque/DD for Rs. _____ (add Rs. 5/- for outstation cheques i.e. outside Delhi) payable to 'Living Media India Ltd'.

The code numbers and quantities of the address books required by me are indicated below. (Use separate sheet for orders exceeding 4 varieties).

Code	Price	Qty	Total Amt.

Name : _____

Address : _____

For leather address books: Please give a maximum of 3 initials per leather address book ordered. Kindly enclose the initials on a separate sheet and add Rs. 10/- for each address book.

ngri Collection, Haridwar

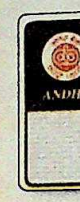
Mail your order to: Living Media India Ltd.
P.B. No. 29, New Delhi 110001

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

CREDIT CARDS FOR SHIRTS, TIES AND SHOE-STRING BUDGETS

Who sa

are also



toothb

accept

cards

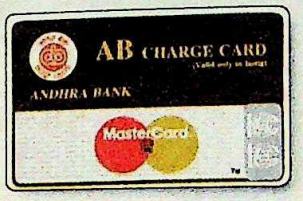
idea g

ADVERT
CITIBAN

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Who says credit cards are only for tourists and five-star entertainment. That's not true. At MasterCard, our credit cards are also for the little things in life. We have stores that will welcome your card even if all you want is a



toothbrush. And they won't charge you an extra paisa for it. Think about that. It's the most widely accepted credit card. Welcomed by over 15,000 merchant establishments in India. You have all these

cards to choose from. They are all part of the MasterCard family. And it's not expensive to get one. So if the idea grabs you, get in touch with any of the banks whose cards are shown here. You'll be most welcome.

MasterCard

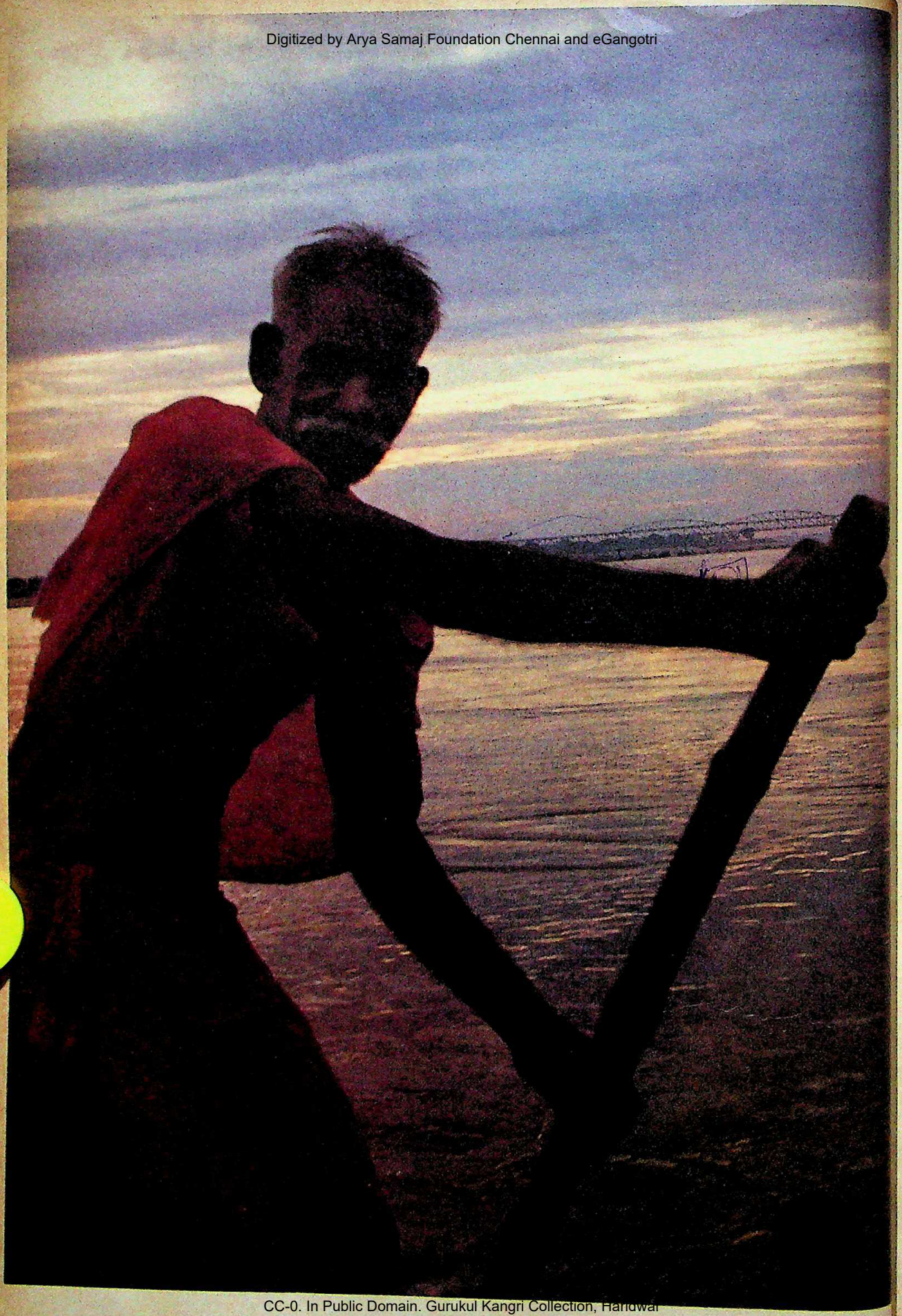
BANK IN YOUR POCKET

ADVERTISING SPONSORED BY MASTERCARD MEMBER BANKS IN INDIA: ANDHRA BANK, BANK OF AMERICA, BANK OF INDIA, CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA, CITIBANK N.A., HONGKONGBANK, UNITED BANK OF INDIA, VIJAYA BANK, THE VYSYA BANK LTD. AND MASTERCARD INTERNATIONAL INC.

LINTAS RC DEL MAS 3 2738

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Of what use is an advanced microcontroller to a man who counts on the sea gods?

Every day millions like him set sail. A prayer on their lips. Hope in their hearts. Will the catch be good today? But now they can be sure. With Motorola's innovative microcontroller technology. It goes into detectors that enable fishermen to locate shoals of fish. The technique: colour depth sounders. The result: people like this man net a bigger, more profitable catch. The fish-finder is just one example. At Motorola, we have the technological understanding and prowess to develop many such advanced software and hardware solutions that can better the human experience. So that high technology isn't just relevant to Starwars and Space Research. But also to this man.

INDIA

TOGETHER WE'LL MAKE TECHNOLOGY WORK

MOTOROLA

TWO WAY RADIOS, PAGERS, CELLULAR TELEPHONES AND SYSTEMS, DATA COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION PROCESSING EQUIPMENT, SEMICONDUCTORS, DEFENCE AND AEROSPACE ELECTRONICS, AUTOMOTIVE AND INDUSTRIAL ELECTRONICS, COMPUTERS.

India Liaison Office: 822, Meridien Commercial Towers, Windsor Place, New Delhi-110 001, India. Tel: 3711549 Tlx: (31)62902 Fax: 3718086

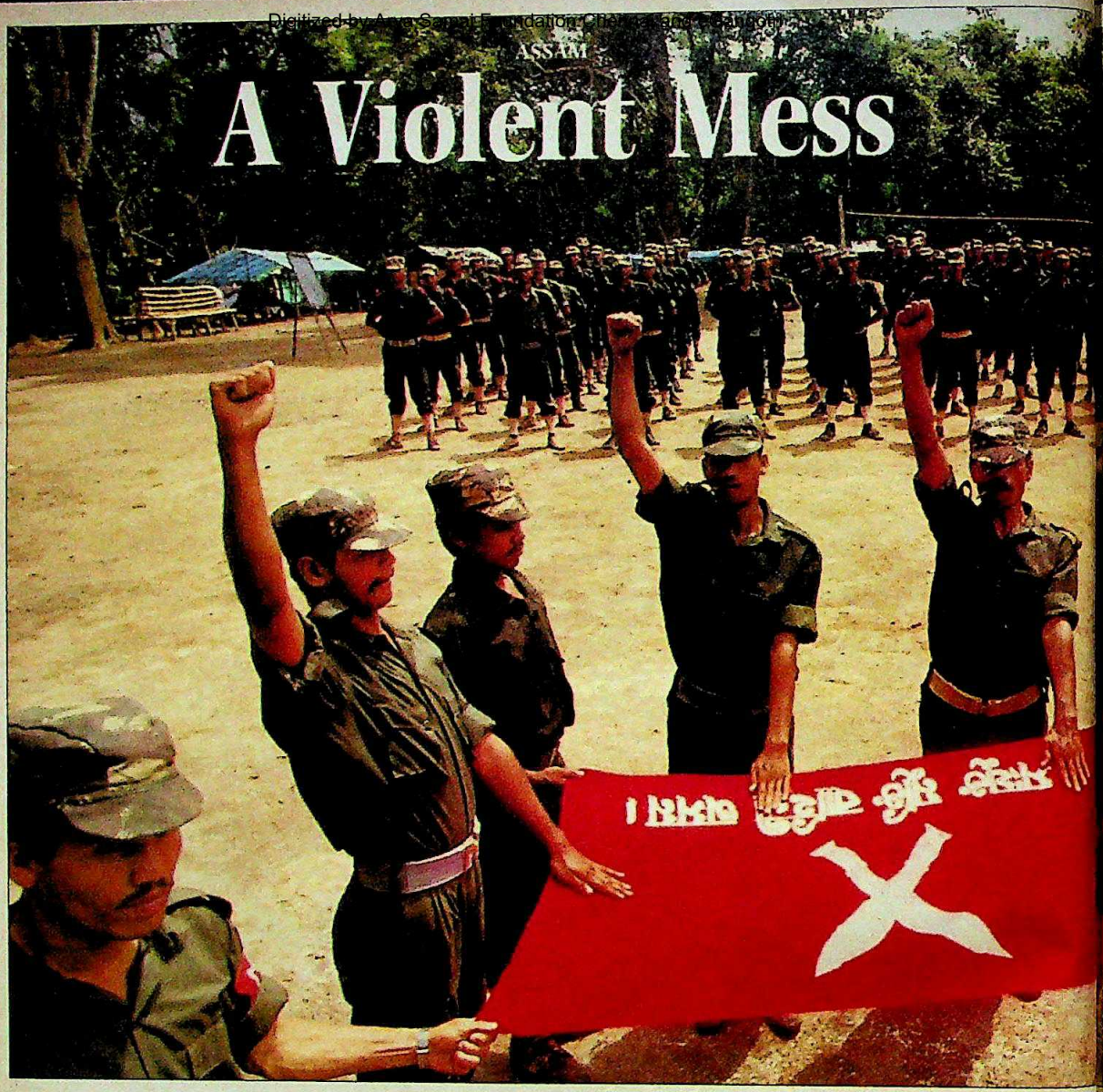
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

LINTAS (DELHI) /MOT-3/2435

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ASSAM

A Violent Mess



Military style training camps now run openly by ULFA serve to underline the collapse of state power and loss of A

ONCE again, students blockade oil. Once again, cries of colonial exploitation by the Centre rend the air. Once again, a government struggles hopelessly to establish a semblance of authority. Once again, Assam is in turmoil. Not quite burning as yet, but nearing a flashpoint with the assembly elections approaching.

The situation in today's Assam is far more serious than even at the peak of the agitation led by the All Assam Students Union (AASU) and the All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad till 1983. At that time, the war-cry was expulsion of foreign nationals. Today it is secession. Then, people cursed the Government but paid their taxes. Today they pay them to the parallel government run by the secessionist United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA). Then, the movement had united the vast majority of Assamese people in its xenophobic campaign. Today, Assamese society lies riven by tribal, ethnic and caste rivalries as it has never been in its fractious history. "The state is sitting atop a volcano waiting to erupt," says a top police officer. Sarat Chandra Sinha, former chief minister and Congress(S) president, is more emphatic: "You talk about Kashmir and Punjab? This will be much worse. Every one will be at every one else's throat."

So complete is the sense of insecurity, so complete the acceptance of the inevitability of utter chaos in the coming months that each community is busy forming its own private army and collecting arms. It is a case of acronym pitched against acronym. ULFA, for instance. Despite its claim to be leading movement of "*Asombasis*" (residents Assam) rather than ethnic Assamese, is seen as a caste Hindu organisation

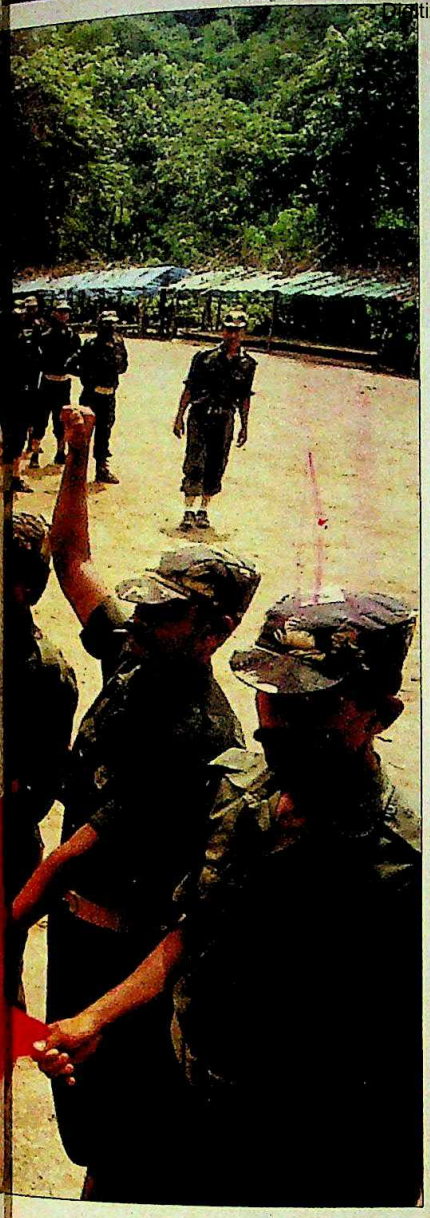
So the tribals, the Ahoms and som other backward classes in upper Assa have set up URMCA (United Reservatio Movement Council of Assam). In larg parts of upper Assam, particularly o the northern bank of the Brahmaputr the countryside is already divided b tween ULFA and URMCA. In dozens tribal-dominated villages URMCA volun teers man check-gates under hoarding banning the entry of ULFA supporter Elsewhere, armed and uniformed ULF cadres routinely raid villages and he

village
On
whose
native
have s
Union
with ar
armed
tribes,
ing au
proach
In
already
occasio
bushed
Assam
ture de
their o
Ranau

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

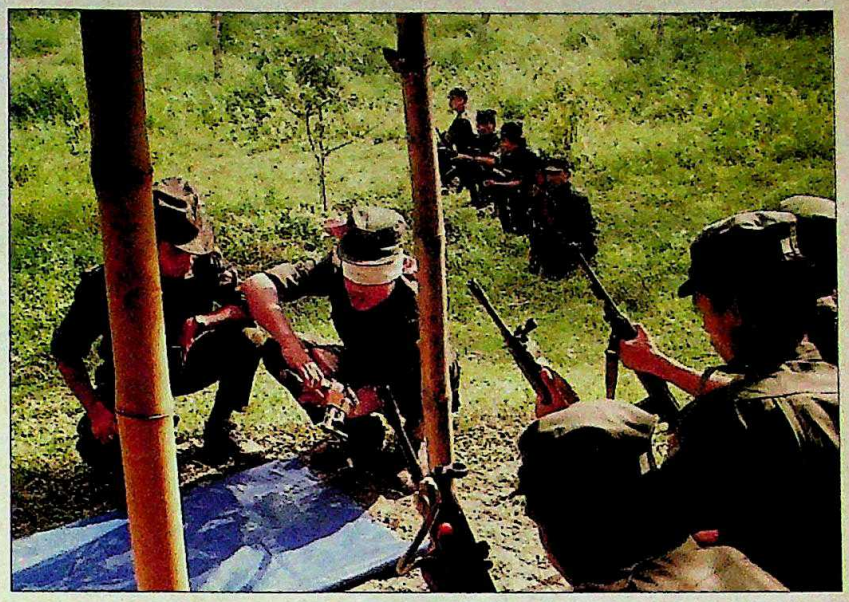
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Photographs by SAIBAL DAS

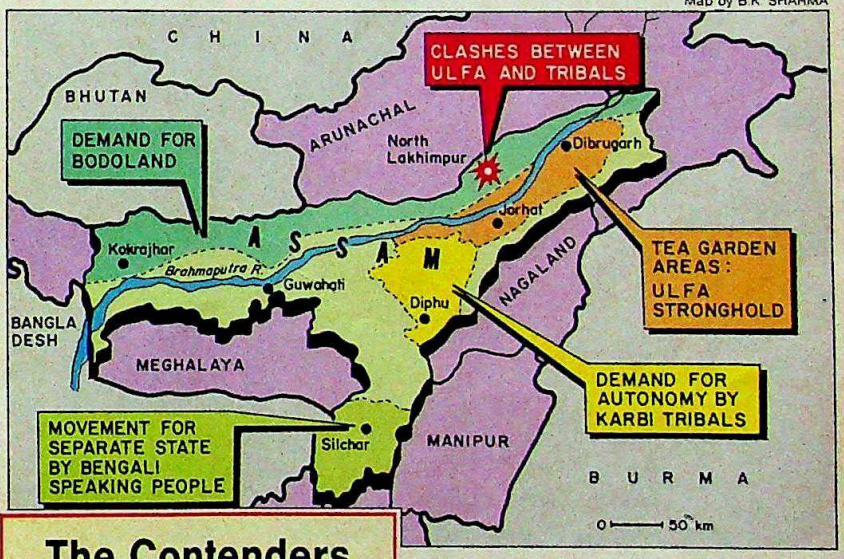


ver and loss of AGP's popular support

The militants say they'll defeat the Indian army like the LTTE did



Map by B.K. SHARMA



acrony
FA, for i
leading
sidents
samese,
nisation
and som
er Assa
servatio
). In lar
ularly o
maputr
ivided b
dozens
CA volu
hoarding
upporte
med ULF
and he

villagers into their labour camps.

On the southern bank, the Ahoms, whose ancestors poured in from their native Thailand to conquer Assam, have set up the Tai Ahom Students Union which is prepared to fight ULFA with arms. The Bodo tribals are already armed to the teeth and with the smaller tribes, such as the Karbis, also demanding autonomy the contours of the approaching mayhem are becoming clear.

In upper Assam ethnic clashes have already taken place. On at least four occasions, URMCA volunteers have ambushed ULFA men and convoys. "Now Assamese chauvinism will die a premature death. Whom will they fight when their own camp is a divided one?" asks Ranauj Pegu, the articulate 27-year-old president of URMCA.

All this in addition to the existing tensions. The state is a veritable ethnic museum with high schools in different regions following 12 mediums of instruction. The Bengalis, most of them Muslims, who together constitute more than 40 per cent of the population, have traditionally been regarded as outsiders. The fissures within Assamese-speaking society do not bring them much cheer. They know that any free-for-all as in 1983 could see the guns, *daos* (tribal machetes) and spears turn towards them. Intelligence reports say the Bengalis, particularly the Muslims, are arming themselves. "The Assamese should have no illusions that this time they will be butchering unarmed, defenceless people," said a senior minority leader.

The nucleus of this menacingly

The Contenders

AASU: All Assam Students Union. Spearheaded the six-year Assam agitation and gave birth to AGP which it now opposes.

AGP: Asom Gana Parishad. Five-year-old ruling party in Assam of former AASU leaders blighted by factionalism.

ULFA: United Liberation Front of Assam. Armed, secessionist organisation of old participants in Assam movement.

URMCA: United Reservation Movement Council of Assam. Made up of tribals at daggers drawn with ULFA.

ABSU: All Bodo Students Union. Demands a separate Bodoland state for Bodo tribals.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

By articulating popular grievances, and campaigning against corruption and drunkenness ULFA has

violent buildup is the ULFA which now holds the state to ransom—often literally with kidnappings—in the Brahmaputra valley. Most tea gardens pay it protection money. And though it has faced resistance from tea garden labourers from Orissa and the Bihar tribal belts, the ULFA holds total sway in the tea garden country. "The capitulation of the tea industry is total after the murder of Surrendra Paul of the Apeejay group," admits a senior tea executive.

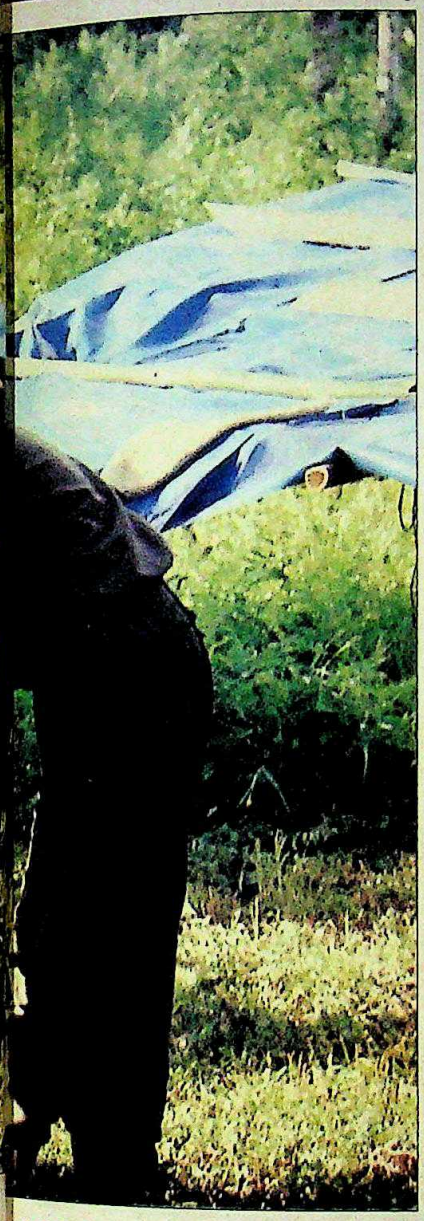
ULFA's charge that tea companies take away Assam's wealth without investing anything in the state has substance. But the tea companies have over-reacted. Macneil and Magor is offering to invest in a gas cracker unit and the Tatas are taking out front-page advertisements and putting up posters to say how much they are doing for Assam. Said an officer: "It is a case of crawling when only asked to bend."

TEA garden managers and owners argue that since they are stuck out in the wilds with no protection and no communication, they have no choice but to buy peace. Particularly as the state has abdicated all authority. In Lakhimpur and Dhemaji districts, ULFA has had a free run for quite some time. The sale of liquor was stopped. "Corrupt" businessmen were forced to leave. A Punjabi hotelier was compelled to confess in a local newspaper advertisement that he made his money by supplying women and liquor to guests. A Marwari petrol pump owner wa forced to execute a deed transferring th property to a local Assamese befor being ordered to leave the place. An government servants, bank employees block development officers and ever policemen and tea garden manager were forced to work on the building o roads and embankments while an ULF girl, a Sten gun slung from her shoulder along with others supervised them. O different days volunteers numberin 20,000-30,000 were mobilised.

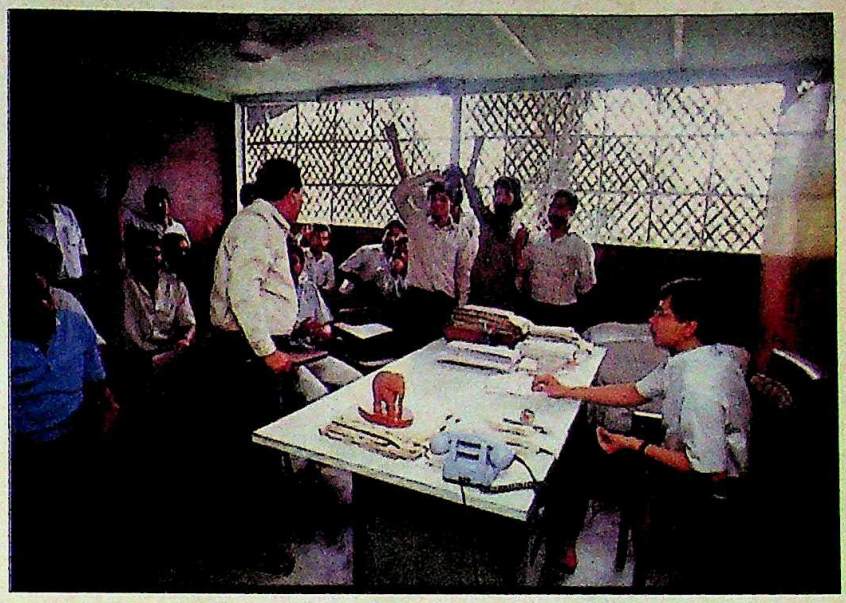
All this was done under the banne of "Jaatiya Unnayan Parishad" which technically has no relation with ULFA. I practice, the link between the two is a open secret and Unnayan Parisha members freely admit it. The parishad

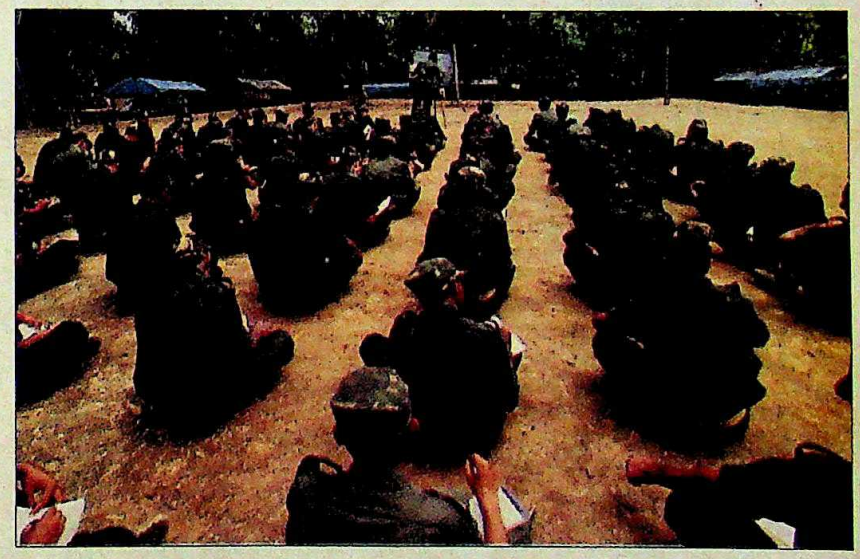
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



URMCA has vast tribal support and threatens to take on ULFA





stablished a rapport with people

Extremists are just waiting for the right time before they strike

links with ULFA are also borne out by the fear of parishad members to venture into areas that are the stronghold of the rival URMCA. Significantly, the parishad has been utilising, or is in the process of asking for, funds made available by the nationalised banks, NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture, Reconstruction and Development) and the North East Council. Said a police officer: "The parishad is using government land, and often the Government's money and resources and yet claiming that the works have been executed by them."

The gun has been wielded effectively. Till last month, 101 killings were attributed to ULFA, of which 59 were Assamese. The morale of the police is low, especially after the assassination of Daulat Singh Negi, Dibrugarh police chief. Officers admit that rarely, if ever, would policemen stop cars, especially Maruti Gypsies. In cities, many well-to-do Assamese have sold their Gypsies. It is ULFA's favourite vehicle, and if the organisation wants to borrow one, it would be embarrassing to say no.

IT is easy to see why ULFA's Robin Hood image persists. One example: two years ago, two well-known rhino-poachers in Kaziranga, the Das brothers, were leased a large area of forest land by the Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) Government. It caused a furore and a public interest litigation was filed in the Guwahati High Court. When the court order failed to redress the wrong, ULFA took the matter into its own hands; it executed the two brothers this year.

Predictably, ULFA's writ is taken more seriously than the state Government's. The organisation openly runs military camps in the Brahmaputra valley. Its cadres have received their basic training from the Kachin Independent Army in the adjoining Burmese jungles, where they shop for arms with extorted money. Intelligence agencies say ULFA has forged links with other extremist groups, particularly Nagas, and there are indications of links with extremists in Punjab and Kashmir.

Intelligence sources say ULFA's origins lie in the extremist fringe of the old Assam movement. The AASU under Mahanta and Phukan agitated

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

peacefully. "But the AASU leaders fell into the Bhindranwale trap," says an intelligence officer. "They thought extremists would be useful to put pressure on the Centre but failed to control the forces they had unleashed." The extremists never gave up arms even after the Assam accord. Instead they went into the Burmese jungles for training.

Today the problem is complicated by a three-way umbilical linkage that often blurs distinction between the AASU, its political offspring the AGP, and ULFA which can best be described as a delinquent member of the same family. Says a police officer: "A man could be a member or sympathiser of all three organsations while claiming not to have any connection with any." So each time an ULFA suspect is arrested the local AASU unit gives a call for a bandh or picketing while local AGP leaders approach the police to secure his release. The AASU and the AGP act partly out of sympathy and partly out of fear.

So deep-rooted is the fear of ULFA now that not even cabinet ministers have the courage to speak against it. "The moment the discussion shifts to ULFA in the Cabinet or in the AGP Legislature Party meeting, everyone shuts up," confessed a minister. "Who knows who we go back and report to ULFA?"

If only the AGP Government had been able to function as a government, things would not have come to such a pass. But its record, from day one, has been one of infighting, mismanagement and corruption. Besides losing its grip on the administration, it has also contributed to a loss of popular faith in the constitutional process. Confessed an AGP minister: "We stand isolated and shamed." Counters Assam Chief Minister Prafulla Kumar Mahanta: "We'll be going to the polls with confidence for a new mandate. We are fully capable of solving problems like ULFA politically."

The most serious loss for the AGP has been the support of AASU which provided it with cadres, a link with the Assamese people, and even a moral right to go

Phukan & Mahanta: poor leadership

ASSAM POLICE

Political Meddling

THE complex linkages in AASU-AGP-ULFA politics make the job of those countering extremism in Assam particularly difficult. Political meddling, including wholesale embargoes on arrests of suspected extremists, is common. A sampling of some secret documents:

► On November 6, 1989, the SP of Barpeta, in a secret note to headquarters, complained of interference by Law Minister Suren Medhi:

"While discussing developments at Pathsala and Patharkuchi, the honourable minister asked me not to conduct any searches at Aohata village. He said the villagers of Aohata may be gathering bows, arrows and other weapons to save the village from attack by All Bodo Students Union extremists and it will be better if no search is conducted."

Medhi says his idea was not to interfere but to help the police maintain peace and harmony in the area.

► On February 25 this year, the SP sent in another complaint, this time saying that Medhi and Minister of State for Culture Kumar Deepak Das tried to influence him at the Barpeta circuit house in the presence of Madan Das of Howly, a suspected ULFA activist:

"... thereafter the law minister presented a list of 18 persons with the request that they should not be arrested or harassed as they are preparing for exams...The DIG (central western range) said the Government has given clear instructions to take strict action against extremist elements and therefore this kind of a request will put the SP in a difficult position...after some discussions DIG (CWR) finally agreed that the boys whose names were in the list will not be arrested for the time being. But he suggested that Sri Madan Das should be produced before the SP for recording his statement and taking his footprints as he has been suspected in a murder case... Thereafter the law minister went out and met the AASU boys in another room. After some time Madan Das was brought before DIG (CWR) by Chandan Sarmah, Mukul Das and a few other boys who requested the DIG (CWR) to avoid police action against Madan Das as he is likely to get a job in the Forest Department... Sri K.D. Das then requested us not to arrest any AASU boys without informing the local AASU unit."

► T.P. Chakrabarti, SP, Guwahati city, alleged lack of cooperation by Guwahati University authorities in tracing two kidnapped Marwari businessmen, R.K. Jalan and M. Prajapathi, for a ransom of Rs 50 lakh, in this note to headquarters:

"Today (8.3.90) at about 8.45 a.m. Sri Dinesh Baruah, Registrar, Guwa

> "...the law minister presented a list of 18 persons with the request that they should not be arrested or harassed as they are preparing for exams..."

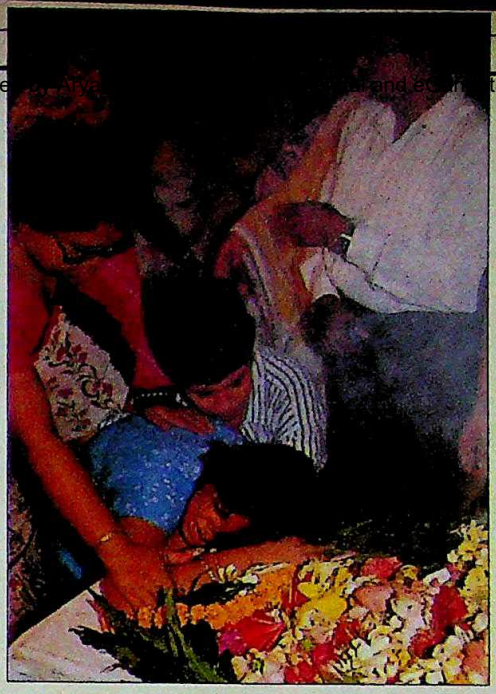
> "...Sri K.D. Das (minister of state for culture) requested us not to arrest any AASU boys without informing the local AASU unit."

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ern. Today AASU blames the AGP and the Centre equally for the non-implementation of the Assam accord. "This government has functioned without any policy. It is not as bad as Hiteswar Saikia's government but it's not much better either," says AASU General Secretary Samujjwal Bhattacharyya.

The AASU leadership accurately echoes the popular mood. In its five years in power, the AGP has almost nothing to show by way of either development or action on the foreign nationals issue. Mahanta and Home Minister Bhrigu Kumar Phukan have been continually at loggerheads. Mahanta has publicly accused Phukan of being hand-in-glove with ULFA and Phukan has threatened to quit twice. Other ministers have been involved in graft, drunken misbehaviour with foreign tourists and their lone female colleague in the Cabinet.



Negi's killing has demoralised the police

Some of this is understandable. After all, the AGP leaders were no more than "boys" when they were pitchforked into power by circumstance and a popular groundswell. Falling in love, marriage and children came later, and with that the need for houses and security. But for the Assamese people, they were still "boys" imbued with idealism, whom three successive Union home ministers had failed to subdue by threat or bribery. They were boys who out-argued and out-bargained for six years the stodgiest and the shrewdest negotiators of the Indian bureaucracy. They were the boys who out-fought the paramilitary forces and who would lift their society from the threshold of extinction.

NOW, feeling betrayed by the AGP, the Assamese people, traditionally dependent on students and youth to provide leadership, are searching for another set of boys. No wonder, ULFA has a growing constituency.

ULFA sympathisers say all the organisation now has to do is play political jiujitsu with the AGP and power will come its way automatically. For example, as the elections approach the AGP will have to harp on regionalism and autonomy. And then the ULFA is going to ask: "Why not go a step further and get real autonomy?" Explains Pegu: "In the past there were two slogans. Foreigners are swamping Assam and the Centre is bleeding it through colonial exploitation. That's old hat." So will the campaign now be against 'Indian dogs?'

The AASU has so far unambiguously opposed secession. Says Bhattacharyya: "Any solution must be within the Indian Constitution. But there should be more decentralisation, and since Assam is backward it should have more autonomy." The situation has parallels with Punjab where each time the secessionists upped the ante the moderates ran for the ramparts of autonomy until the distinction blurred. In the total absence of efforts to counter ULFA, that situation could arise in Assam.

What's shocking is the acquiescence of the Assamese intelligentsia. Most would abuse the organisation, even paint a horrific picture of their state a few months from now, but only off the record. Publicly they would prefer to blame it all on the state's backwardness, on the colonial exploitation of its oil, tea and timber by the Centre. Barring eight professors of Guwahati University no prominent intellectual has even issued a statement condemning extremist "barbarism". Says Hiren Gohain, respected commentator and professor of English, who is one of the signatories: "The Assamese intellectual can't go on blaming everything, even lack of enterprise, on colonial exploitation. Why does he want to catch fish without even getting into the water? He must have the courage to take a stand against extremism."

But Gohain's is a voice in the wilderness. The state Government is totally incapable of dealing with the menace. Many critics feel the AGP will even use ULFA to win the next election, the quid pro quo being a say for ULFA in the selection of candidates.

Worst of all, with the Centre preoccupied with Punjab, Kashmir and the squabbles within the Janata Dal, Assam suffers from an out-of-sight, out-of-mind syndrome. Dealing with the situation is particularly difficult because the AGP is a constituent of the National Front. But it is time the Centre woke up and read the warning signs. The Assamese powder keg is waiting for the spark of elections and if it explodes now the Centre won't even have the paramilitary forces or the army to control the fires. Assam is not merely 70 per cent of India's on-shore oil or 60 per cent of its tea. It is also a strategic border state which helps the Indian Union maintain a tenuous hold on six other border states. Surely Assam is not for burning.

—SHEKHAR GUPTA with UTTAM SENGUPTA in Assam

hati University, came to me...I again explained to him the grave implications of the matter and said it was urgently necessary to carry forward the investigations...for the recovery of the two unlawfully confined persons held incommunicado in some unknown places, including Guwahati University campus. At this Mr Baruah told me that to his information the persons wrongfully confined were safe... Presuming that Sri Baruah and others in the Guwahati University are in touch with the captors, we emphasised that the persons be immediately released..."

▶ On September 28, 1989, policemen in upper Assam unsuccessfully chased an Ambassador car, AMB 8918, being driven by well-known ULFA suspects near the oil township of Naharkatiya. Excerpts from a secret report on the incident:

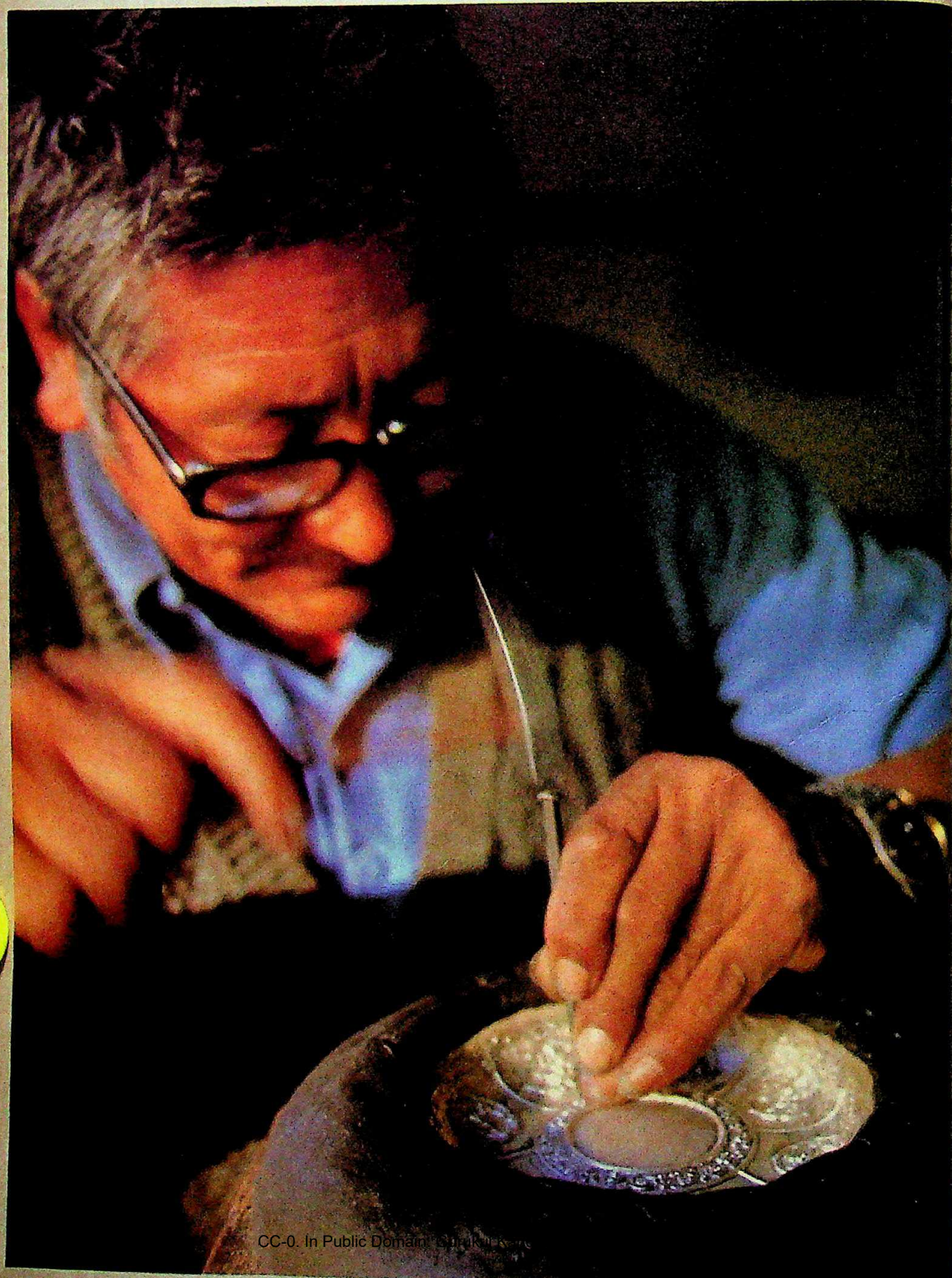
"The car is allotted in the name of Sri Kusumbar Tai Rai Gogoi, MLA, Naharkatiya, also the chairman of Assam Petrochemicals Ltd at Namrup...it is learnt that on September 28, 1989, Sri Gogoi was not in the vehicle when it was being used by ULFA extremists. Sri Gogoi, when contacted personally, stated that he drove the car himself to Naharkatiya and came back after a couple of hours. Sri Gogoi's statement is being verified but because of his position as an MLA of the ruling party it is extremely difficult for local officers to confront him with details of the information available to local police which seems to indicate Mr Gogoi's links, however indirect, with ULFA extremists."

—SHEKHAR GUPTA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

In a country where tradition and state of the art coexist, there is someone who blends them harmoniously.

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



India b
classic
Maega
shares
itself to
This is
Maega
nation
acaden
educat
Benefit
3 short

**The un
System**

Maegab
System
to help
a practi

Salient

- Batch
20 stu
- Lectu
langu
- Use o
video
trans
- Each
flopp
durat
he ge
comp
  - Self
  - Self
thro
  - Test
  - Fina
- Abou
traini

**Maegab
major o**

Maegaby
training
organisa
efficienc

**Some of
Maegab**

Indian C
Trust, U
Docks L
(Taj Gro
Ltd., Ma
Alkalies
Boveri,
Ministry

COMP
A Divisio

Help

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection

India bridges the gap between the classic and the contemporary. Maegabyte Computer Academy shares this foresight and commits itself to promoting both judiciously. This is reflected in its unique Maegalearn System used in a nationwide network of 90 computer academies. Offering computer education of the highest standards. Benefiting over 20,000 people in 3 short years.

The unique Maegalearn Training System

Maegabyte's Maegalearn Training System is used at all its academies to help people use computers from a practical point of view.

Salient Features:

- Batch size restricted to 20 students.
- Lecturers trained to teach in local languages.
- Use of modern learning aids like video, audio cassettes and transparencies.
- Each student is given a personalised floppy disk called Maegadisk for the duration of the course. Using this, he gets to do the following on the computer:
  - Self-paced tutorials
  - Self evaluation of learning through computerised quizzes
  - Tests
  - Final examination
- About 60% practical computer training.

Maegabyte has earned the confidence of major organisations

Maegabyte organises special computer training programmes for large organisations to help them improve their efficiency.

Some of the organisations trained by Maegabyte are:

Indian Oil Corporation, Bombay Port Trust, Union Bank of India, Mazagaon Docks Ltd., O.N.G.C., Indian Hotels Ltd. (Taj Group), Indian Tobacco Company Ltd., Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd., Gujarat Alkalies & Chemicals Ltd., Asea Brown Boveri, BHEL, ISRO, Doordarshan, Ministry of Defence.

A wide spectrum of computer courses

The courses at Maegabyte are designed by Arthur Andersen & Co. Chartered Accountants. They are divided into two categories:

Certificate Courses (For individual subjects)

- Computer Awareness Programme
- Wordstar
- dBASE III Plus
- LOTUS 1-2-3
- BASIC Programming
- COBOL Programming
- FORTRAN Programming
- PASCAL Programming
- Fundamentals of Programming in "C"
- Advanced Programming in "C"
- Systems Analysis and Design
- Introduction to UNIX
- UNIX Shell Programming
- "C" under UNIX
- Advanced UNIX

Diploma Courses (For comprehensive coverage)

Diploma in Computer Applications
Diploma in Commercial Programming
Diploma in Scientific Programming
Post Graduate Diploma in Computer Management

Yes. I would like to know more about Maegabyte Computer Academy.

Please:

☐ Call on me
☐ Send me brochures

Name: _____

Designation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Pin: _____ Phone: _____

Nature of my activity:

☐ Business ☐ Professional ☐ Service
☐ Housewife ☐ Student ☐ Others

Mail coupon to:
Maegabyte Computer Academy
Krislon House, 1st floor,
Saki Vihar Road, Saki Naka,
Andheri (E), Bombay 400 072.

I.T.5

Maegabyte Computer Academy Locations

• ANDHRA PRADESH • Anantapur* • Guntur • Hyderabad* • Kakinada* • Karimnagar • Khammam • Mahaboob Nagar* • Mancherial • Moghulpura* • Nizamabad • Vijayawada • Vishakhapatnam • Warangal • ARUNACHAL PRADESH • Itanagar • ASSAM • Dibrugarh* • Guwahati • Jorhat • Silchar • Tezpur • BIHAR • Dhanbad • Muzaffarpur • Patna • Purnea • DELHI • GOA • Margaon • Panjim • GUJARAT • Ahmedabad • Anand • Bardoli • Baroda • Bhavnagar* • Dahod* • Godhara • Kapadwanj • Khambat • Mehsana* • Rajkot • JAMMU & KASHMIR • Jammu* • KARNATAKA • Gangavati* • Hassan • Mangalore • Shimoga* • KERALA • Cochin • Palghat* • Trivandrum* • MADHYA PRADESH • Indore • Jabalpur • Raipur* • Satna* • Ujjain • MAHARASHTRA • Ahmednagar • Aurangabad* • Baramati* • Bombay • Dhule* • Nanded* • Nashik • Pune • Satara • Vashi • NAGALAND • Kohima* • ORISSA • Berhampur • Bhubaneshwar • Cuttack • Jharsuguda* • Rourkela • PONDICHERRY • TAMIL NADU • Madras • Madurai • Trichy • TRIPURA • Agartala* • UTTAR PRADESH • Allahabad • Firozabad • Kanpur • Lucknow • Maunath Bhanjan* • Meerut • Varanasi • WEST BENGAL • Calcutta*

(Opening shortly)*

maegabyte
COMPUTER ACADEMY
(A Division of Maegabyte Consultancy Services Private Limited)

Helping India challenge the '90s

Regd. Office:
Krislon House, 1st floor,
Saki Vihar Road, Saki Naka,
Andheri (E), Bombay 400 072.
Tel: 6366582 Tlx: 011-79318 MEGA IN

Zonal Offices:
Bombay Tel: 6320135; Calcutta Tel: 432370, 441784; Delhi Tel: 674919; Madras Tel: 71553.

R.K.SWAMY:MCA/143

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

PAKISTAN

A Legacy Comes Alive

Zia-ul-Haq's son makes a bid for national leadership

THIS melancholy of mourning was actually a celebration of victory. Or, more aptly, reincarnation. Last fortnight, as lakhs of Pakistanis milled around the Faisal Mosque in Islamabad, to offer the *fateha* on the second death anniversary of Zia-ul-Haq, laid to rest in front of the mosque, they were jubilant at the return of Ziaism. The dictator may have gone rather unceremoniously but he had left behind the legacy of a peculiar hybrid of military rule and democracy which Benazir Bhutto unsuccessfully tried to defy for some time. Now, his true legatees—or "orphans" as Benazir's supporters call them—were back on centre-stage.

The star of the show was none other than Ejazul Haq, Zia's son who over the past two years has taken time off from his Bank of America job to campaign for punishment to his father's "assassins" and fight Benazir. Pakistani liberals feel he is continuing a blood feud which will prove disastrous for the nation. His supporters say he is only underlining the political reality in Pakistan. "Whether you like it or not, Zia is a factor and if politicians think they can get votes in his name, it is a tribute to a man the world dismissed as no more than a cruel despot," said a member of the new caretaker cabinet.

Just how much vote-value the anti-Pakistan People's Party (PPP) politicians see in Zia's name was evident from the list of luminaries attending the rally, playing second fiddle to Ejaz. Former prime minister Mohammed Khan Junejo, whom Zia had thrown out so contemptuously, was there. So were several members of the caretaker cabinet, basking in the borrowed glory of a man they had always dreaded and sometimes despised.

"People in the subcontinent back those who have suffered personally and when a man is gone he is always remembered. The bottomline is, people think Zia was a kind man," explains Humayun Akhtar Rahman, Ejaz's alter ego, whose father General Akhtar Abdul Rahman was with Zia in the ill-fated C-130 Hercules aircraft. Ejaz himself is candid: "Rajiv Gandhi would still be flying planes had his mother not been prime minister. Benazir would be still living in London or some such place if her father had not been in power. But for my father, who would even know

Photographs by PRAMOD PUSHKARNA

Ejazul Haq (inset); and Zia supporters on the offensive

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

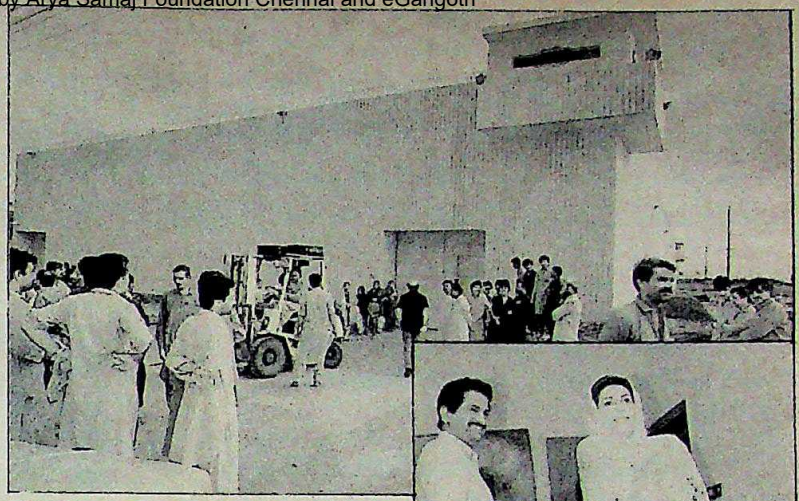
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Ejazul Haq existed?"

His supporters assert that if an anti-Benazir group comes into power in the October 24 elections, Ejaz will be a candidate for the prime ministership. No one else in the Combined Opposition Parties (COP) has his kind of personal credentials and from being one of the 19 vice-presidents of the Muslim League, he has recently been elevated to chief campaigner of the party.

The show at the Faisal Mosque was not just a vindication of Zia and an anointment of his son as a contender for power but also an opportunity for Benazir's opponents to prove that her dismissal was not an unpopular step. The crowds were predominantly Punjabi—Zia's stronghold. The Pro-Zia and anti-Benazir slogans were spontaneous and full-throated giving an indication of the electoral challenge Benazir is likely to face less than two months from now.

For the moment, however, her main concern is to fight off the threat of prosecution. Last fortnight, while solemnly repeating the promise of holding elections on schedule, the caretaker government took steps that indicated a firm resolve to corner Benazir and her key partymen. President Ishaq Khan issued a notification setting up special, one-man courts in provinces to try cases against public figures. Significantly, these courts were given powers to disqualify those convicted from being members of National Assembly for seven years. "These are Kangaroo courts, we'll have nothing to do with them," said Benazir. But the caretaker government was unmoved. "Whatever she calls them, the courts have been set up under the law of her land. She had better respect them," said new Industries Minister Chaudhri Shujat Hussain.



Bilawal House in Karachi and (inset) Benazir: under siege

THE outlines of the "establishment" strategy are becoming clear. There are many pointers that the caretaker government and the army have made up their minds not to allow Benazir to stage a comeback. At Prime Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi's reception on Pakistan's Independence Day, army chief Mirza Aslam Beg was categorical in his criticism of Benazir. He even lampooned her for not knowing how military intelligence functions. "If after having been prime minister she does not even know that, what can I say?" he asked.

Diplomats in Islamabad were quick to note that having criticised her publicly, Beg would do everything possible to stop her from coming back. Also, having publicly indicted her government it seemed unlikely that the President would swear her in again. "They don't want just an election. They want to destroy Benazir. The stakes are high," said PPP leader and former Sind information minister Iqbal Haider.

A large team of investigators is preparing a charge-sheet against Asif Zardari. Technically, since he is not a public person, special tribunals cannot go into allegations against him. But Benazir's opponents have already taken care of that. Even before her dismissal, private and public interest litigation cases had been filed against him in several alleged scandals.

By pressing these charges, the "establishment" will continue to push Benazir into a corner, hoping that she will ultimately choose what is popularly being called the "Marcos option". Whether she does that or not will depend on what she considers supreme, her own honour and career or the safety of her family. But it is a phenomenal turnaround in the fortunes of a politician whose return from exile just four years ago was greeted with cries of *"Zia-Marcos bhai-bhai, Cory aaee, Cory aaee."*

—SHEKHAR GUPTA in Pakistan

General Beg (right) with Jatoi

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

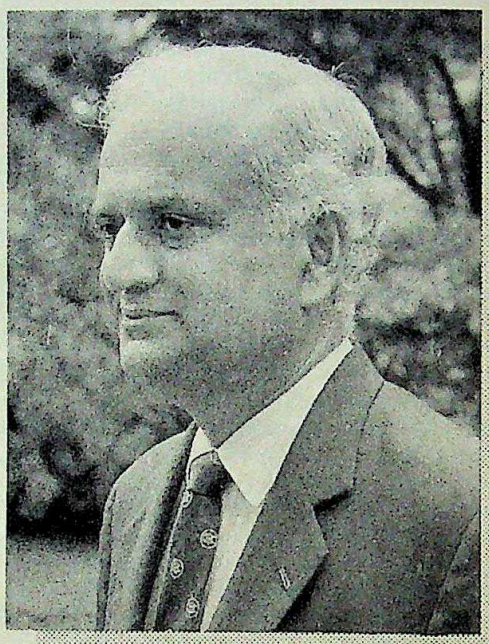
TIDEWATER

YULE

TIDE WATER OIL CO. (I) LTD.

(A MEMBER OF THE ANDREW YULE GROUP OF COMPANIES)

Highlights of speech by Shri K.S.B. Sanyal, Chairman, at the Annual General Meeting on July 30, 1990.



INNOVATION AND PROGRESS

Over the last couple of decades, technology has been playing an increasingly important role in Indian industry. The growth in awareness level and attitudinal reorientation towards technology are welcome developments. Today, a positive approach towards the technological aspect permeates not only industry but to a large extent government and labour as well. The fallout has been entirely beneficial: a distinct trend towards growing efficiency in the workplace, greater striving for quality and manufacturing excellence and evidence of increased innovativeness in many spheres.

India today is rightly considered a world force, a major resource centre, with growing self sufficiency in oil, gas, coal, steel and specific areas such as engineering. Thousands of new, sophisticated enterprises are blossoming all over our subcontinent. And since this growth trend is here to stay, we must learn to accelerate and maintain the pace of innovation and progress.

High technology must play a key role. We must boost productivity, maintain a technological edge in products, and spawn innovative growth industries that will in turn create more employment and revenue for the exchequer. A competitive spirit based on loyalty to one's organisation and pride in its products must become widespread from the management level right down to the assembly line. Innovation must be nurtured at every step.

SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL

I joined your company in 1975 as Chief Executive and grew with you to be its Chairman. During these years I have absorbed, assimilated and tried my best to contribute value to the proud heritage and truly professional culture that the Andrew Yule Group and Tidewater have come to represent.

In this, my last address to you before I complete my tenure in office, you will no doubt allow me to add a personal note and say that I am proud and honoured to be a part of this very dynamic organisation. Through vision and spirit, endeavour and excellence, Tidewater has made its distinctive presence felt in the corporate sector.

Way back in 1928, Tidewater had begun as a small company within the Yule Group. Today, standing on the threshold of the new century, I perceive Tidewater as a pioneer, a trend-setter, a 'big-little' organisation capable of making original contributions of fundamental significance to its sector. If small is beautiful, then the beauty of Tidewater lies in its vibrant energy, in the excitement and anticipation that permeates its being. I feel that this company is poised on a launching pad, ready to surge out into new directions of opportunity.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ADVANCED LUBRICANTS FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW

Tidewater has always been in lubricants—the phenomenal development of which has accompanied the progress of technology worldwide, both as an end-result and adjunct to it. Sophisticated new-generation machines, increasing automation, advanced process technologies and new standards of 'lube performance' have energised the development process.

The current overall national demand for lubestock is over 8 lakh tonnes a year. Production from Haldia, Madras and Bombay refineries totals around 5 lakh tonnes. The deficit is projected at 3.10 lakh tonnes by 1991-92 and 7.41 lakh tonnes by 2000.

I am happy that Tidewater is ready to face the concomitant challenge. The Company has progressed from the production of primary lubricants to that of hi-tech totally protective lubricants for use in the automotive and industrial sectors. Our range of synthetic and semi-synthetic lubricants manufactured to world standards of excellence mark true product breakthroughs. Of course, our mainline mineral-oil based lubricants continue to be among the best as they have been for over 60 years. I sincerely believe that Tidewater deserves the support and encouragement of the Government, the Ministry of Petroleum and the major oil companies toward contributing further in the development of advanced lubricants technology.

GROWTH GENERATES MORE GROWTH

At the turn of the decade, I feel it is entirely appropriate to look back on our achievements over the Eighties. Let me recapitulate for you the fortunes of this company as it progressed through the decade. In tandem with India's move deeper into the Technology Age, Tidewater's sales volume increased by 53%, turnover increased by 272%, profit before depreciation by 715% and general reserve by 657%.

Our in-house Research & Development Centre at Deonar, Bombay, continues to focus intensely on product innovation and quality control. Sophisticated formulations evolved here have successfully met stringent demands and standards specifications from various industries. Today, I can confidently declare that our R&D Centre stands in a unique position from which it can match equally unique and specialised industrial requirements.

You will have no doubt noted from the annual report for 1989-90, the last financial year, that Tidewater has recorded its highest profit, before depreciation, of Rs. 1.44 crores, an increase of 23% over last year. Sales revenue went up by 11%. The company has also declared a record dividend of 35% on ordinary shares.

I am pleased to add that Tidewater has lived upto its role as a socially responsible corporate citizen within its capabilities. Our various activities included supporting the cause of the Public Relations Society of India by part-sponsoring PRSI's 12th conference; promoting sporting activity by providing advertising support to the Junior National Badminton Championships at Calcutta; and providing financial assistance to the tune of over Rs. 1 lakh to the Ramakrishna Mission towards Vivekananda Palli Rehousing Scheme in North Calcutta.

GEARING UP FOR CHANGE

A new era has dawned in India. Technology and innovation are creating bold tomorrows, expanding our already growing hi-tech horizons. Tidewater continues to contribute meaningfully towards fulfilling the aspirations of our nation. With technology, knowledge and human creativity at its heart, endowed with the unique culture and work ethic of the Yule Group and by improving productivity and quality standards, Tidewater has proclaimed and demonstrated its ability to ride the technological crest. Our greatest satisfaction lies in that we are recognisably part of the impetus to change.

In conclusion, may I take this opportunity to sincerely thank our shareholders, Board of Directors, colleagues and all those who have helped Tidewater to grow over the years.

NOTE : This does not purport to be a record of the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

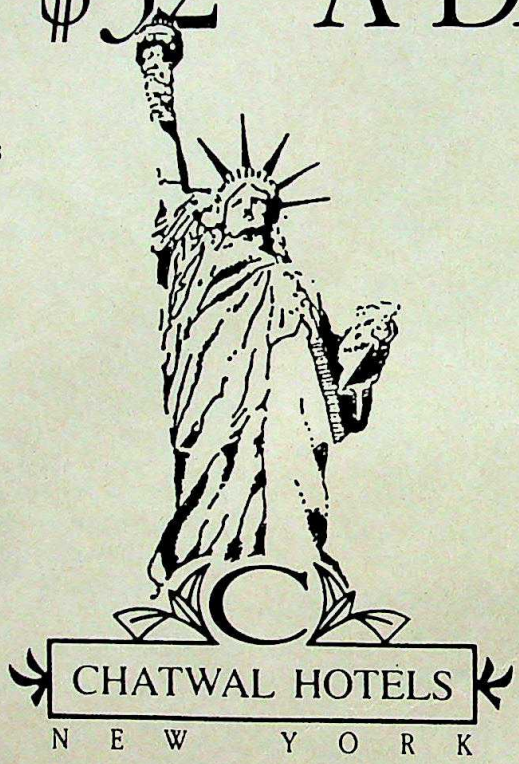
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

A TOUCH OF HOME IN NEW YORK AT $32* A DAY.

Now CHATWAL HOTELS offer Indian business and vacation travellers a selection of six comfortable hotels, all located in the heart of Manhattan. Within walking distance of major business and shopping centres, the Rockefeller Centre, Broadway Theatre District, Empire State Building, world famous museums ...

Comfortably priced, each CHATWAL HOTEL features rooms with cable colour T.V., direct dial telephone and individual climate controls. Add to it a complimentary continental breakfast and discount coupons for Indian meals at Bombay Palace and Mexican at Zona Rosa.

For further details and bookings, contact your Travel Agent or the nearest SITA office. And discover the most convenient CHATWAL HOTEL for your needs and comfort.



SITA WORLD TRAVEL (INDIA) PVT. LTD.

Head Office:
F-12, Connaught Place,
New Delhi-110 001.
Phone: 331-1122 & 331-4152.
Fax: (011) 332 4652.

• Days Inn on 48th Street • Quality Inn Midtown on 47th Street • The Best Western Woodward on 55th Street
• The Chatwal Inn on 45th Street • The Chatwal Inn on Park Avenue • The Aberdeen on 32nd Street

NEW YORK WITH SITA

□ AGRA-74922 □ AHMEDABAD-409105 □ BANGALORE-578091 □ BHUBANESHWAR-54408 □ BOMBAY-233190 □ CALCUTTA-291204
□ COCHIN-353012 □ HYDERABAD-233628 □ JAIPUR-68226 □ KANPUR-52948 □ MADRAS-470985 □ NEW DELHI-3311122
□ PUNE-663775 □ SECUNDERABAD-834007 □ SRINAGAR-78891 □ VARANASI-42945 □ VELLORE-26711

* Rate per person per night on twin sharing basis. Applicable taxes extra.

Systems/932/90.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

MODI MURDER CASE

Tempestuous Trial

Fiery arguments during framing of charges

THE story is, of course, about the eternal triangle, but has all the ingredients of a pulse-stopping novella that makes much of it often seem unreal. A country boy who rose to be the country's badminton superstar, his off-court love affair and marriage to another player of repute, an ambitious scion of royal lineage whose political aspirations and closeness to the prime minister became as controversial as his reputed ways with women, mysterious characters including the lady's mother who seemed to be advising her daughter on how to keep the three-cornered relationship going and a brutally climactic murder that stunned the country.

All this has come together in the bizarre court room drama unfolding in Lucknow—the city where badminton champ Syed Modi was shot dead two years ago, triggering off a controversial murder investigation by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). Last fortnight, as two of the country's most acclaimed criminal lawyers, S.G. Samant (for the CBI) and Ram Jethmalani (for Sanjay Singh, MP; Ameeta Modi and Akhilesh Singh, the prime accused) clashed in court, even more lurid details of the triangle came spilling out, ensuring that the case quickly becomes a cause celebre. The fact that Sanjay Singh is a relative of the prime minister gives it an added political twist.

The current hearings are to enable the court to decide whether prima facie evidence of conspiracy to murder exists. Only then will charges be framed against the accused and the actual murder trial start. But the political edge the case has already acquired could eventually overshadow all that. On the eve of the trial, the Government was accused of trying to interfere in the course of justice. Allegedly in keeping with a move to cut costs, all private counsels were removed—including Samant. It was also revealed that apart from Samant, at least six other law experts had commented that it was a "strong case" after analysing the CBI's chargesheet against Sanjay Singh and six others.

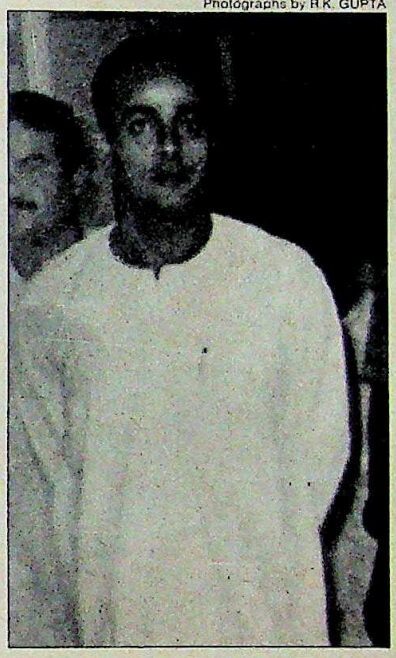
Moreover, on July 21 the Lucknow District and Sessions Judge I.S. Mathur, who would have heard the case was transferred and O.P. Pradhan was appointed in his stead. An agitated Congress(I) which had staged a walkout from the Rajya Sabha on August 7, the day the accused, Sanjay Singh, took his oath as MP, created a furore in Parliament and stalled all proceedings for two consecutive days. Shouting slogans of "*Jo Syed Modi ka hatyara heh, V.P. Singh ko pyara heh,*" they demanded that V.P. Singh himself should give an explanation as a relative of his was involved.

The prime minister moved swiftly and reinstated Samant and also the private counsels in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination attempt case of October 2, 1986 "in the interest of justice". Said Congress(I)'s Shiv Shankar: "This only further proves his malafide intentions. Where was the need to club the Modi case with the Rajiv Gandhi case?"

But such political accusations were soon forgotten when Samant started his arguments last fortnight. While Sanjay Singh, Ameeta Modi, her brother, and Akhilesh Singh watched in stony silence, Samant recreated the CBI's conspiracy theory based on the relationship between Sanjay and Ameeta and Sanjay and Akhilesh Singh. During the first three days Samant painstakingly attempted to establish the extra-marital relationship of Sanjay and Ameeta with the help of Ameeta's amazingly candid diary notings and with evidences of Modi's resistance to the relationship.

The most sensational evidence that the CBI produced to buttress its murder theory was a letter written to Ameeta by her mother Pushpa Kulkarni on February 19, 1984 just before her marriage showing that Modi had suspicions even then. Addressed to

Photographs by R.K. GUPTA



Sanjay Singh, Ameeta Modi and (inset) Syed Modi: a "tripartite relationship"

It is the lurid details of Ameeta's relationship with Sanjay from the pages of her diary that dominated the proceedings and added weight to the prosecution case.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

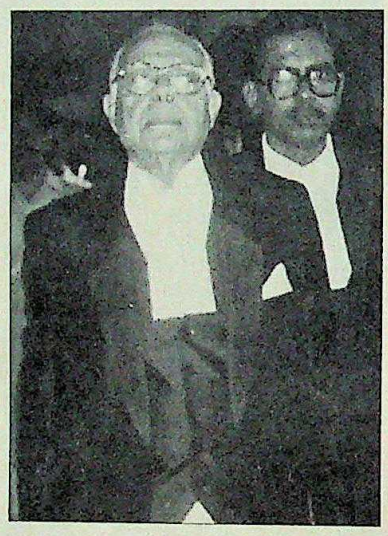
'Dearest Meetu (Ameeta) and Sanjay', the letter stated: "I am so glad that it is Sanjay Singh who is involved. But both you and Sanjay must learn to use a certain amount of restraint and check on your emotions. Sanjay wants to be chief minister and I guess it would certainly mean many more women (ambitious, power-oriented, pretty and charming ones at that) in his life. He must not allow his image to be tarnished—he has to be very careful—I do not mean that he should shun womenkind but I guess you know what I mean. Well, looks like I am already beginning to think of him as my son..." In the post script she wrote: "I have not written a separate letter to Sanjay because I am sure you will read this one to him. I do feel very close to him. So you might as well read this only to him..."

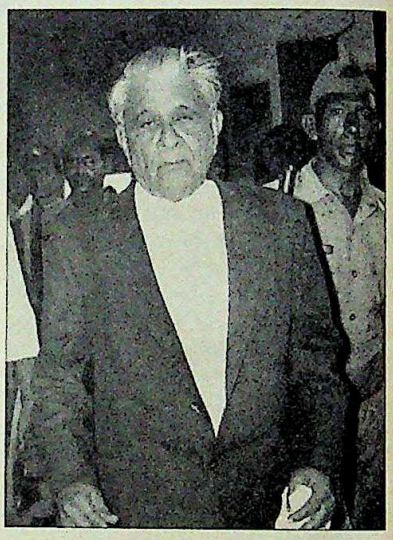
IF her mother's letter sounded extraordinary, Ameeta's diary notings which Samant quoted were even more scandalous. "Today S2 (her alleged code for Sanjay Singh) enjoyed for first time, second time. I have never seen him like that before. (February 23, 1986)." And the entry from February 16, 1986: "The night was memorable. Called on me again at midnight. Today was unusual, sent raptures, ecstasy..." About her strained relationship with Syed Modi, she wrote: "On the whole the year saw many moments of strained relationship between Modi and me. Time and again we used to fight and the reason was S2."

Samant then went on to highlight the connection between Sanjay Singh and Akhilesh Singh who has been described as "a person who could get anything done". The Sanjay Singh-Akhilesh Singh meeting in Allahabad's Yatrik Hotel on June 18, 1988, was sought to be made out as the occasion when the plans for Modi's murder were worked out. Thereafter Akhilesh Singh introduced Bhagwati Singh to Sanjay Singh on July 20, 1988 at Bhagwati's residence. The next day Bhagwati was given Rs 50,000 by Sanjay Singh to carry out the crime, the CBI counsel claimed.

Samant produced records of Sanjay Singh calling Akhilesh in Rae Bareli, Akhilesh calling Sanjay in Delhi and then Ameeta calling Sanjay in Delhi to show that the three were in touch with each other before and after the murder. "A conspiracy could be proved on the basis of circumstantial evidence, which suggested physical manifestation of agreement between conspirators," he said. He cited the Supreme Court verdict in the Indira Gandhi assassination case in which Kehar Singh was convicted under similar circumstances.

Unperturbed, Jethmalani opened his argument in classic style declaring that in spite of all the evidence of closeness between the alleged conspirators there was no shred of evidence to show that they conspired to murder Modi. "If the CBI has one evidence, I will myself request you to frame the charges against the accused and will end my arguments immediately," Jethmalani argued.





Jethmalani (left); and CBI Counsel Samant: a classic clash

Samant the CBI counsel depended on Ameeta's diary and a letter from her mother to buttress the murder conspiracy theory. Jethmalani argued there was no evidence.

Jethmalani's defence was that the "tripartite relationship" was a very harmonious one. He attempted to show that Modi exaggerated the implications of this relationship. Jethmalani admitted that when Modi fell prey to his suspicions, he did get unhappy and at least on one occasion "got carried away". But, claimed Jethmalani, in each case Sanjay Singh reassured Modi that his suspicions were unfounded and the relationship returned to normal.

Jethmalani's strong suit was his argument that Ameeta's prime obsession was her husband's career. He quoted from her letters to show how worked up she used to get each time Modi had to play an important match. "How could a woman who was so madly in love with her husband be charged of getting him killed?" he asked. He also quoted an entry from her diary: "Modi was tired, I really loved him tons."

The defence counsel also said that the lie detector test done on the accused should not be used as evidence but only as a tool for investigation as even an advanced country like the US has yet to establish whether such a test was indeed foolproof.

But for all of Jethmalani's brilliance and court room theatrics, it is the lurid details of Ameeta's relationship with Sanjay from the pages of her diary that dominated the proceedings and added weight to the prosecution case. Whether or not the conspiracy to murder Modi emerged out of that illicit intimacy will only be known once the actual murder trial starts. But the sight of Ameeta, flanked by her brother and Sanjay Singh, dabbing the odd tear with tissue paper as the intimacies of her diary are read out, is an evocative enough sign that the climax to the case is going to be an explosive one. And, nobody present in court during the hearings is willing to accept Jethmalani's claim that "this trial, if at all it happens, would be the biggest waste of public time and money."

—DILIP AWASTHI

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

What did Sigmund Freud say to the Skypak Man?

"You move so fast... aren't you afraid of the Freudian slip?"

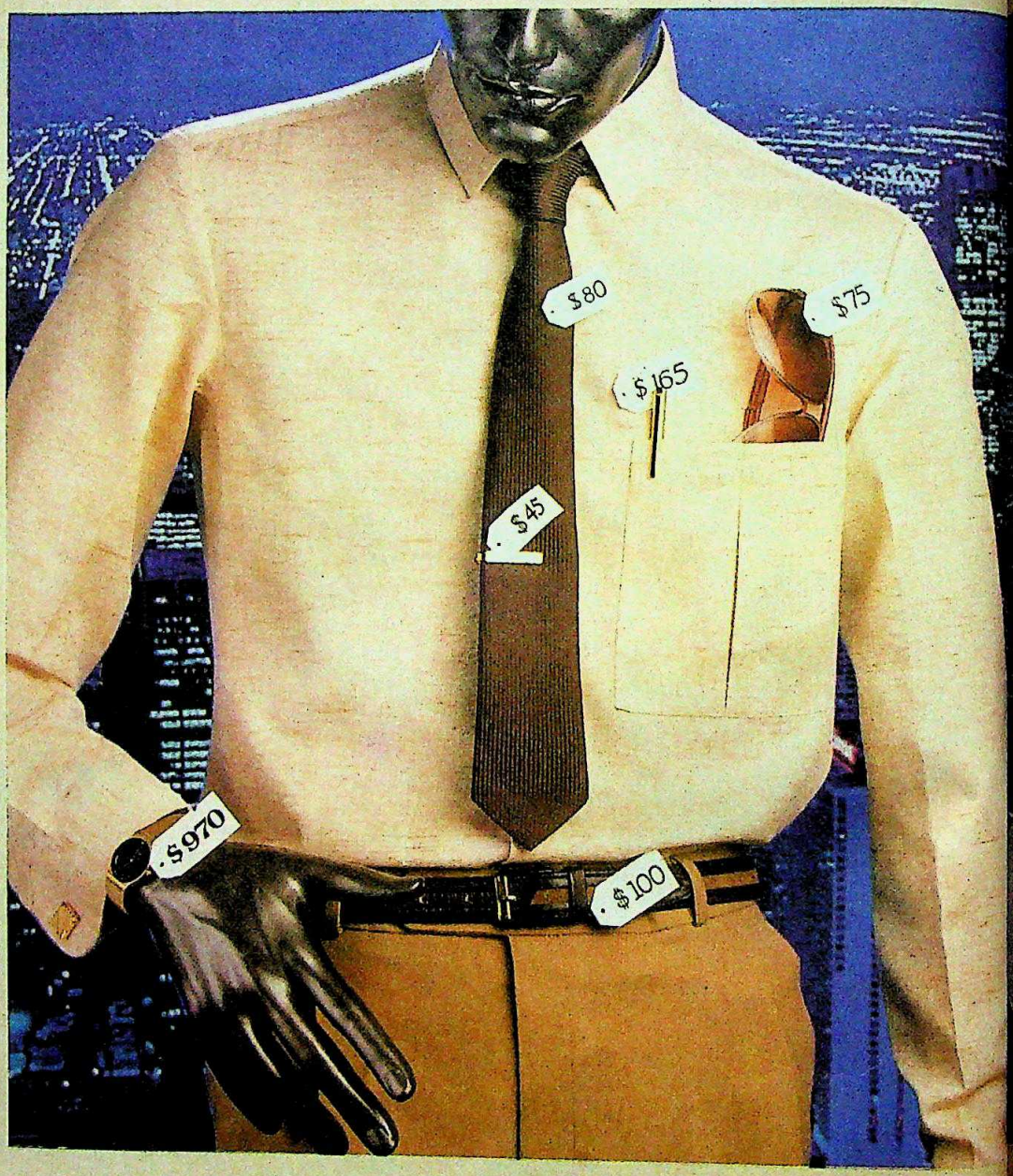
We'll deliver. Wherever on earth. SKYPAK The worldwide couriers.

Skypak House, Off M. Vassanji Road, Marol, Andheri (E), Bombay 400 059.

Avenues:SC:582:90R

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai

... Nor through your nose.

Believe it! Now you can merrily buy world class shirts for Indian money.

The best shirts in the world are not just available in your own town but they are also tropicalised, so to say, down to the last stitch to suit the Indian male. Your climate. Your physique. Your style. Your moods at work and play.

And most surprisingly, your pocket! So that now you can dress up and take revenge on all those over-priced shirts of the world. In your own currency.

BLUE CHIP.
Expensive looking,
but highly affordable.

Don't pay in Dollars

BLUE CHIP
SHIRTS-TROUSERS

A quality product from
VIP

Harid

Singapore Airlines introduces Raffles Class.

(It's more than just Business as usual.)

e don't have a Business Class anymore. Instead, we have Raffles Class. Where gentlemen can freshen up with toiletries Nina Ricci — or Elizabeth Arden for our lady passengers. In an ambience that says it's more than just business as usual.

SINGAPORE AIRLINES

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

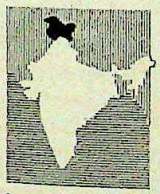
Photographs by SHARAD SAXENA

Municipal block ablaze, after a bomb blast in Srinagar

JAMMU & KASHMIR

Upping the Ante

Troops exchange fire as infiltration intensifies



WITH less than a month left to go before the early winter snows begin to close the high passes it is time for desperation on both sides of the line of control in Kashmir. The Pakistanis are desperate to push in as many of the 5,000-odd trained Kashmiri militants in the camps, and the Indian Army is steadfastly refusing to give any quarter. Last fortnight, there were rashes of artillery duels in the Kupwara sector of northwestern Kashmir.

Though exchange of small arms fire is quite routine on the line of control, the incident that took place on August 20 is significant as 80 mm and 120 mm artillery pieces were used by the Pakistani troops. One Indian jawan died and four were injured.

The tension in this very porous sector, which is a prominent route for infiltrators, had been building up for two months. Last month, Pakistani troops intruded 200 yards into Indian territory.

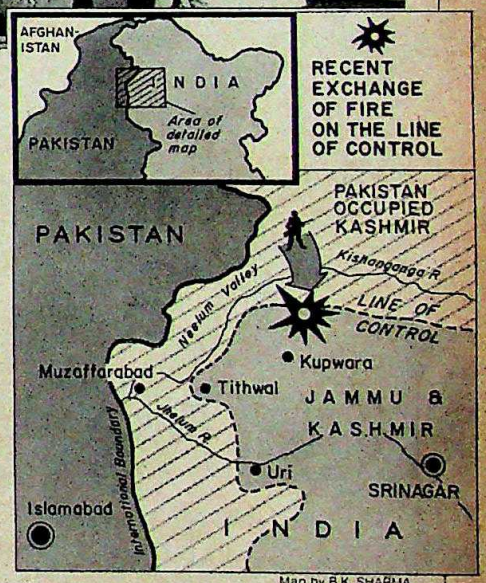
The Pakistani intruders went to the extent of constructing foxholes on Indian soil, and occupying them—without the initial knowledge of the Indian border forces. The foxholes, which were constructed at night, were situated in front of the Indian Army's Forward Defended Locality (FDL) at Bhagat and Jungle Tekri. These two FDLS and their bunkers, used as forward patrolling bases, had been abandoned by the Indian troops—a mistake that emboldened the Pakistanis.

It was, in fact, only a month later that the intrusion was discovered by the Indian Army. Says an army officer: "It is not all that difficult to intrude 200 yards inside the border since our view is obstructed by the hill features." Finally, on August 12, Indian troops fired on the Pakistani bunkers, destroying them.

Highly placed sources say they delayed retaliatory action so as not to rock the boat while talks between the two foreign secretaries were going on in New Delhi. "There was no point in escalating tensions at that sensitive point," says an official.

Initially, efforts were made to sort out the problem between the two director-generals, military operations of India and Pakistan, over the hotline. After that failed, the Indian troops took additional time to haul heavier weaponry up to the FDLS which are situated at a height of 10,000 to 11,000 feet.

The incident on August 20 was thus a culmination of the tension which has been building up on the India-Pakistan border over the last few months. At 11.15 a.m. on that day, Pakistani troops—which had been forced to retreat after the August 12 incident when the "occupied bunkers"



Map by B.K. SHARMA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

had been destroyed—used 120 mm and 80 mm guns besides heavy incendiary shells to fire on the Indian FDLs and three other posts. The Indian troops retaliated with heavy artillery fire and the exchange lasted for 12 hours at a stretch.

Eventually, it was diplomacy and restraint that succeeded in reducing a potentially explosive situation. However, the incident was only a pointer to how easy escalation can be in a situation where infiltration of armed and trained subversives into the Valley is key to Pakistani campaign in Kashmir.

Meanwhile, the heavy artillery fire is being viewed by the Indian Army and the BSF as a clear signal of "Pakistan pulling out the stops". Pakistani troops are not only allowing infiltration but are now even helping make the infiltrators' task easier by engaging Indian troops at one point so as to enable the militants to cross over under the cover of fire.

The confrontation betwen the Indian and Pakistani troops is concentrated along the mountainous stretch of the border from Kupwara in the north down to Punch, as the region includes the main ingress points into the Valley. Kupwara, in particular, is a sensitive district as it is dominated by the fundamentalist Jamait-e-Islami and the population there is openly sympathetic to the militants.

"The next two months are strategic," says Governor Girish Saxena, adding that the border incident was evidently meant to boost the militants' morale, which must have sunk low after the recent arrest of JKLF 'commander-in-chief' Yasin Malik and his deputy Hamid Sheikh.

But while rumours circulate in New Delhi that the Government is holding secret talks with the JKLF, the other militant groups appear to be in no mood to relent. As Asif Iqbal, deputy chief of the Hizbullah, told INDIA TODAY in Srinagar: "For us, this is a *jehad*."

The Indian Army and the BSF are particularly worried about what they call "the return of Ziaism" in Pakistan. Within a fortnight of Benazir Bhutto's ouster, the head of the Inter Services Intelligence (ISI), Shamsur Rehman, was replaced by Major General Mahmood Durrani, a former aide of late Pakistan President Zia-ul-Haq. Indian officials feel that with this whatever restraint there may have been on the ISI activities in Kashmir has been lifted.

Pakistan, in its effort to give all out support to the militants has now come up with a strategy of training militants in arson and providing them with petrol-filled jerrycans to set houses ablaze each time the security forces visit areas for raids and seizures. This adds weight to the disinformation campaign about the security forces going on a rampage.

In fact, the ISI has produced a manual on terrorism, printed in the JKLF's name, highlighting the need for disinformation and propaganda. Also, there has been a deluge of arms and explosives in the Valley over. Among the seizures made in recent weeks have been 220 slabs of TNT.

With the Valley flooded with arms and since soon the season's first snowfall will start the next few weeks will prove crucial and difficult too.

—HARINDER BAWEJA in Srinagar

Militants making bombs in Srinagar

ANDHRA PRADESH

Rising Son

Shashidhar is the power centre

IT pays to be the son of a politician. Even more so if you are the son of a chief minister. The latest in these powerful ranks to become controversial is Shashidhar Reddy, younger son of Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister M. Chenna Reddy.

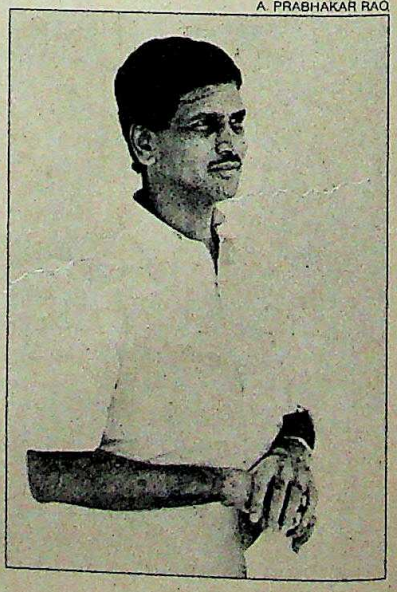
But Shashidhar Reddy is not in a hurry to come centre stage. When enthusiastic supporters tried to rope him in to organise his 42nd birthday celebrations on August 24, Shashidhar reminded them that such extravaganzas could be easily misunderstood. His sense of caution is understandable considering that his elder brother Ravinder Reddy's attempt to corner power was one of the reasons for the downfall of the Chenna Reddy ministry in 1980.

Shashidhar's entry into politics came after Chenna Reddy was made president of the Andhra Pradesh Congress(I) Committee (APCC-I). He served as his father's aide and later was made the agent for Chenna Reddy's campaign from Sanath Nagar constituency. Later, when Chenna Reddy gave up charge of the APCC(I), he made sure Shashidhar was inducted as one of the joint secretaries.

Though he does not talk to officials

Shashidhar Reddy: low-key style

A. PRABHAKAR RAO



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

"It's 6.00 pm. And there's no way I'm going to spend an hour in the kitchen."

If you'd rather spend your evening attending a premiere than in the kitchen, then the Batliboi Eddy Microwave Oven is for you.

After all, it can cook, boil, thaw, stew, bake, roast, reheat, and do more, really fast. (A cup of coffee takes less than a minute.)

And, this advanced microwave technology helps cook the food uniformly, while retaining its flavour, natural goodness, and nutritive value.

Which is why microwaves are such a rage in the West today.

And the good news: More than 70 Indian dishes have been cooked in the Batliboi Eddy by the Institute of Hotel Management and Catering Technology, Bombay.

More, the Batliboi Eddy comes with its own recipe book.

So, if you'd rather not spend the rest of your life in the kitchen, get yourself the Batliboi Eddy Microwave Oven.

Today.

For a free brochure "The Batliboi Eddy and the modern Indian woman", write to the Consumer Durables Division, Batliboi & Company Limited, Mahindra Spicer Bldg., J.N. Heredia Marg, Ballard Pier, Bombay-400 038. Please enclose your address and telephone number.

Chaitra-B BB 576 B

Batliboi Eddy
Microwave Oven

One day, it'll become a necessity.

BATLIBOI

Batliboi & Company Limited
Apeejay House, Dr. V.B. Gandhi Marg
Fort, Bombay 400 001

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

In its warp, In its weft, In its weav

Ahmedabad • Bangalore • Baroda • Bombay • Calcutta • Chandigarh • Coimbatore • Delhi • Gorakhpur • Hyderabad • Imphal • Jaipur • Madras • Patna

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

a v

..India lives.

handloom house

Sarees • Dress Material • Readymades
Furnishings • Carpets • Bed, Bath & Table Linen

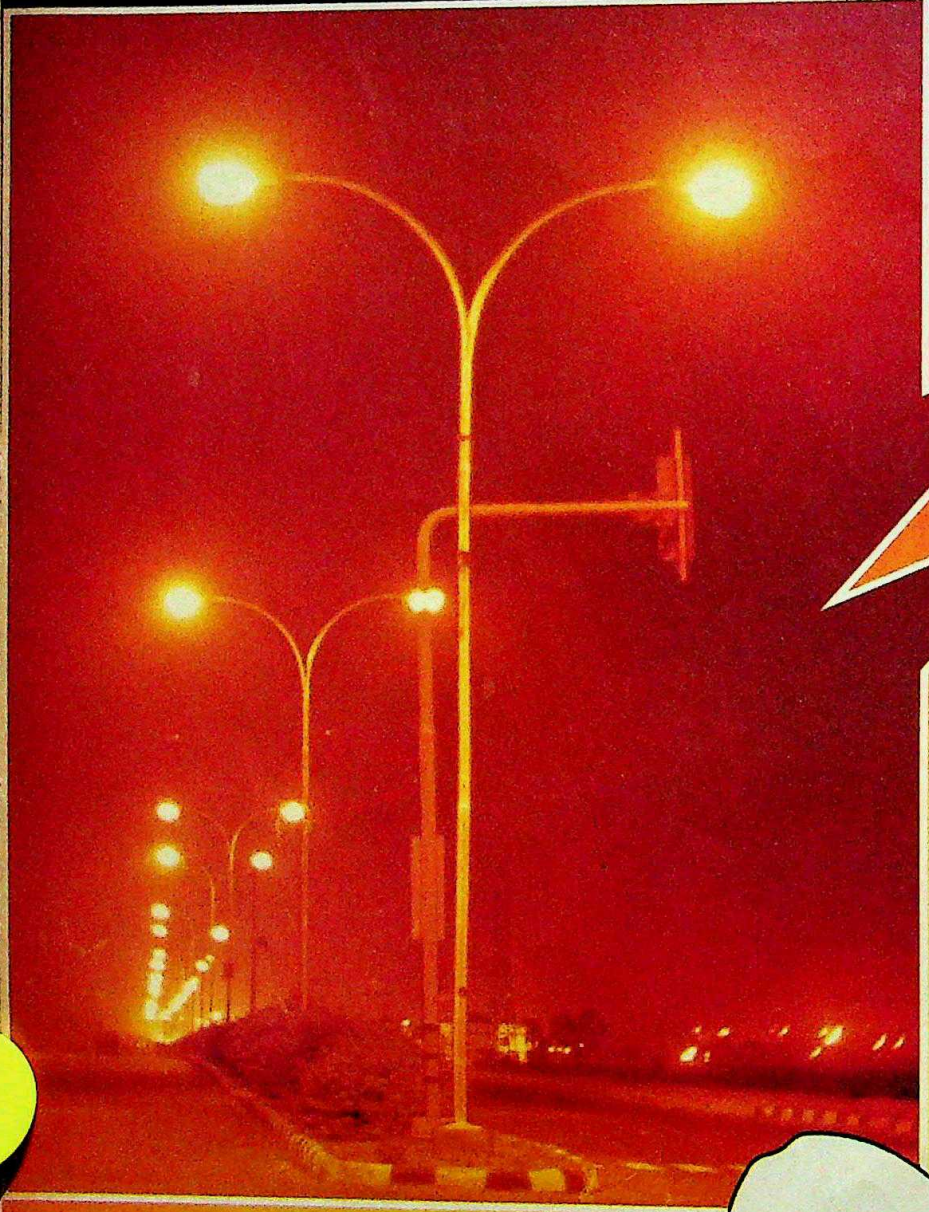
• Madras • Nagpur • Patna • Ranchi • Secunderabad • Surat • Vijayawada • Vishakhapatnam

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Interact:AIH:316

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

It takes so little energy to turn night into day!



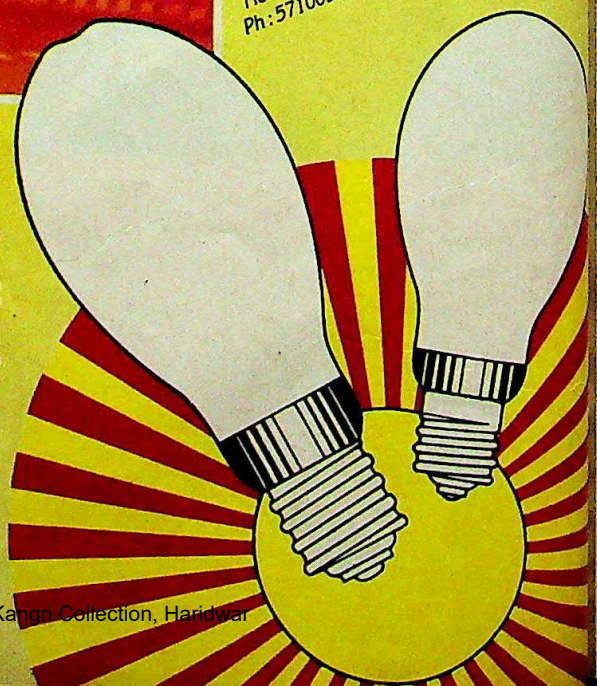
Surya HPSV lamps.
Ideal for lighting highways, airports, hotels, car parks, roundabouts, factories, railway yards, docks and residential complexes. Available in 70, 150, 250 & 400 watts with matching luminaires.

- Advanced turbo-molecular pump ensures long life, quicker ignition and low voltage start.
- Arc tube sealed with ceramic plug used to avoid thermal cracks and ensure shock-proofing.
- The arc tube does not let excess amalgam to enter the arc stream, so the lamp does not blink and is vibration-proof.
- Water-based coating, hence glare-free uniform light.
- 10 times more energy-efficient and 14 times longer life-span than ordinary incandescent bulbs.
- 2 times more energy-efficient and 3 times longer life-span than fluorescent lamps and mercury vapour lamps.

Prakash Tubes Ltd.
(Lighting Division)
Padma Tower-1, Rajendra Place,
New Delhi-110 008.
Ph: 5710093, 5710564, 5710592.

SURYA

High Pressure Sodium Vapour Lamps



SAVE LIGHT
SAVE ENERGY

International quality lamps in technical collaboration with OSRAM-GEC Ltd., U.K.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

directly. Shashidhar has sometimes convinced his father to change his decisions. A recent example is the Government staying its order of July 1990, allowing the felling of virgin forests in East Godavari district. He had earlier persuaded his father to allow Naxalite undertrials to be given bail and to let them hold rallies while at the same time taking up a programme to improve living conditions of tribals.

Detractors in the Congress(I) and the Opposition look askance at his role. "We call him Shashi Babu after Chandrababu Naidu who became the extra-constitutional authority during Telugu Desam rule," says one minister. Shashidhar admits he would naturally get more attention than other joint secretaries but that also puts him in a delicate position where everything he does reflects not only on him but also on the chief minister.

The Telugu Desam, however, is convinced that Shashidhar is already an extra-constitutional authority. According to the party Propaganda Secretary, G. Muddukrishnama Naidu, he sent fax messages from New York on behalf of the chief minister who was hospitalised there, and even gets things done through officials in the chief minister's secretariat. Such charges are not without substance. Shashidhar's poultry and construction business office, across the street from the chief minister's residence, is often full of Congress(I) men including a number of MLAs. He even has a hot line to the chief minister's home.

Yet, all party work that he indulges in, including shielding his father from political attacks, is a facade for him to keep track of the goings on in the state for the chief minister. Whether it is the rise in the level of flood waters above the danger mark in the temple town of Bhadrachalam or the abduction of officials by Naxalites in East Godavari district, the information is relayed to Shashidhar's office within minutes. "He is like the crescent emerging as the full moon," says state BJP General Secretary Bandaru Dattatreya.

Shashidhar is aware that many of those coming to meet him have an eye on a cabinet berth or on the post of chairperson of a government corporation. At least 70 such top posts are to be filled after the green signal from party President Rajiv Gandhi. "Politics is not power or position. It is a wider concern about our future," says he. Evidently, the poultry farmer-turned-politician is not one to count chicks before they have hatched. —AMARNATH K. MENON

Rooting for Oneself

INSIDE EYE BY INDERJIT BADHWAR

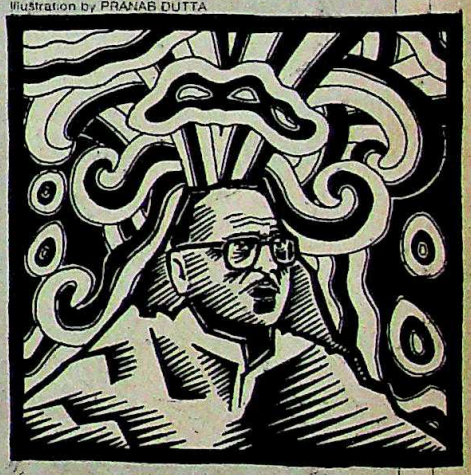
JUST when you think his guard is down and he's been cornered, Vishwanath Pratap Singh manages to wriggle out and jump back to the centre of the ring and outfox his opponents with feints of confusion and combinations of complex responses. But there's always the danger of the Artful Dodger tying himself into knots.

Devi Lal's farmers' rally in Delhi may not have produced the 20-lakh turnout that he was expecting. But it was no damp squib. Some of the prime minister's cabinet colleagues privately admitted that its potential political fallout had left them edgy. No one expected that Singh would counterpunch so swiftly. And he chose to do so from the Red Fort, reaching an audience—through national television—before which Devi Lal's three lakh crowd was reduced to numerical insignificance.

Poet, politician, con-man, sentimental fool, gallery-player, country bumpkin, he was all these during his televised Independence Day speech. You could transfer him in a time machine 10 months back to Ghatampur addressing a farmers' rally during his hectic election campaign, talking in a voice choked with emotion about the blood, sweat and tears of the toiling masses and consecrating his forehead with the dust of the villages.

The Raja as Fakir. He was trying to re-create that old electoral magic that had so mesmerised his listeners when he was on the stump. But somehow, this time, it had a hollow ring to it. He was trying too damned hard. As an outsider challenging the system in the dustbowl of eastern Uttar Pradesh, his torn kurta stained with bird-droppings, he exuded an earthy magnetism. But from the Red Fort, his achkan dotted with petals that had showered down from the flower-bedecked national flag he had unfurled, he looked and sounded like a prime minister in search of a vote bank.

Illustration by PRANAB DUTTA



Worse, he sounded just like a gimmicky Congress politician. Mrs Gandhi had dazzled the country with her *Garibi Hatao* slogan. Rajiv's latest political incantation was Panchayati Raj (Power to the People). Mrs Gandhi's disciple, Singh has now come up with another vote-grabbing mantra—reservations: Power to the Powerless. Power from the haves (he referred to them as *data*) to the have nots (*pata*). Not necessarily economic but political power. *Tijori nahin takht chahiye* (not the keys to the treasury but the keys of the kingdom).

Promises, promises. Special programmes for women and children. The declaration of the Decade of the Kisan (Devi Lal eat your heart out). Singh may be in the centre of the ring again but he is simultaneously painting himself into a corner. Try as he might, he will not be able to transfer power to the powerless overnight. And with the oil crisis threatening the economy, he cannot squander money on the populist promises he has made. Raising expectations through slogans and being unable to fulfil them is a perilous gamble.

A slogan gone stale is the deathknell of a politician. Popular disenchantment sets in rapidly. Credibility vanishes. But in the short run, while the slogan retains its viability—the right slogan that is—it can become a powerful electoral weapon. In the Congress culture slogans (*Garibi Hatao*, Panchayati Raj) are always coined just before elections.

Mid-term poll or not, one thing's for sure. The prime minister is running for prime minister.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

JK PAPER CARRIES ON THE MAGIC OF COMMUNICATION

Communication

The magic which has made man the undisputed master of the Universe. With power over beast and nature.

And Paper.

Which has made communication possible. In the spread of knowledge. In business, social contact or packaging essentials.

JK Paper.

In its own way carries on this magic of communication. In more ways than one. Through its range of papers. Each specifically developed for your needs.

IN SLIGHTLY SIMPLER WAYS

JAYKAY

JK PAPER
A DIVISION OF
STRAW PRODUCTS LTD.

JK BOND • JK AIRMAIL • JK POSTER • JK SUPER COPIER • JK COTE PAPER & BOARDS • JK CREAMWOVE • JK MAPLITHO

F.S. Advertising/JKP/400

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

To double the earning power of your savings account, cut this ad in half.

The SmartMoneyAccount. 10% interest instead of the usual 5% which you get from an ordinary savings account. How does it work?

Simple. Say, you've deposited Rs. 10,000. At 10% p.a. you earn Rs. 1000 in a year. OK, but what if you need to withdraw? No problem. Say, you withdraw Rs. 6000. On this, you pay overdraft interest at 12% p.a. Which works out to Rs. 720. However, your Rs. 1000 (interest on the original deposit) keeps coming. So, your net income is Rs. 1000–Rs. 720 = Rs. 280. In the case of an ordinary savings account, you would have earned 5% interest on your balance of Rs. 4000. That is, only Rs. 200. So, quick! Cut out the coupon. Because, idleness can be costly.

HongkongBank AnyTimeMoney

Get a FREE AnyTimeMoney Card with your SmartMoneyAccount. For instant banking, round-the-clock.

SmartMoneyAccount

HongkongBank
The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

AnyTimeMoney Facility not available in Visakhapatnam
HongkongBank branches only at Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, Madras and Visakhapatnam

Yes! Each day costs me half the earning power of my savings. Hurry, send me more information on how I can make my money

S1 M3 A1 R1 T1

Name _____
Address _____
_____
_____ Tel _____

fold here

IT 12

To,
The Customer Service Officer
HongkongBank
52-60 M. G. Road
Bombay 400 001.

Business Reply
Inland Letter Card

No postage stamp necessary if posted in India

Permit No. BY-S-381 Bombay GPO Bombay 400 001

Postage will be paid by addressee

fold to stick

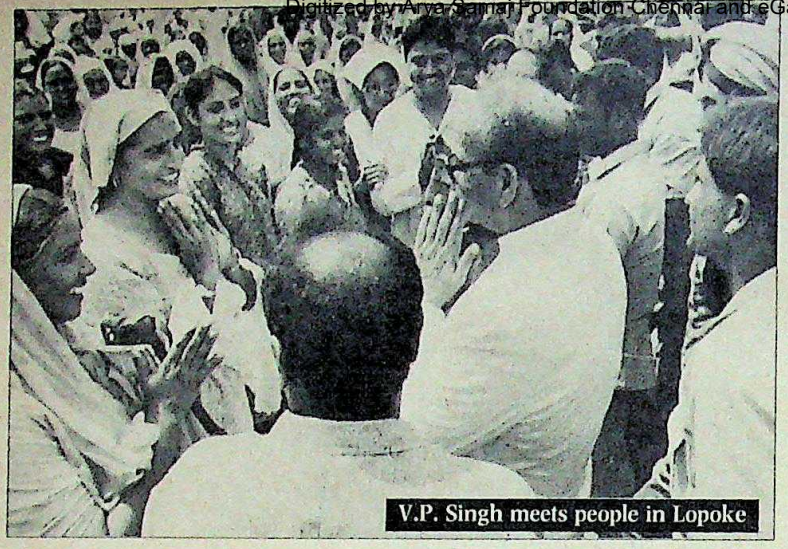
LINTAS HKB SMA P 8 2517

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

KARAN SINGH/The Tribune

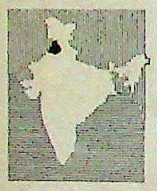


V.P. Singh meets people in Lopoke

PUNJAB

Dead End

Political process fails to revive



IF an increasing semblance of peace and order is the pre-condition for the holding of assembly elections in November in Punjab, then the strife-torn state's return to popular government seems to be a continuing mirage. It's not as if there has not been hectic activity. Only most of it has had to do with political machinations, and not with the containment of violence.

Last fortnight, Prime Minister V.P. Singh suddenly woke to the dangerous realities of Punjab, and tried to re-create the magic of his Golden Temple visit last December. During his visit to Lopoke village, close to the Indo-Pak border, he declared his intention of undertaking a week-long padyatra in Punjab after the monsoon session of Parliament. He also once again called for that oft-repeated symbolic gesture: the all-party meeting.

But dithering had obviously dissipated the prime minister's credibility. The turn-out at his rally was sparse, and then former chief minister Prakash Singh Badal declared that his faction of the Akali Dal would not attend the meeting which he termed as an "exercise in futility".

Akali politics, anarchic at the best of times, continued to snarl the state's politics in ambiguities. Simranjit Singh Mann resigned from the presidentship of Akali Dal(M) in a huff following criticism by septuagenarian Dr Sohan Singh of the self-proclaimed Panthic Committee. The committee has declared itself against all those who intend to follow the parliamentary path to gain power, and in what has obviously cut Mann to the deep, termed his party's hardline stand as a part of "tactics to come to power".

The crisis in the Akali Dal(M) however deepened as Mann refused to withdraw his resignation, even though the party's working committee unanimously rejected it. Making things worse for Mann were detractors like party general secretary Gurtej Singh, who declared stridently: "What Mann is trying is trickery and deceit and it can't go on forever." Meantime, Mann continued to erode his status as the key figure in any solution to the state's problem by hardening in his intransigence, even criticising the prime minister's reconciliatory statements on Punjab made on August 15.

Adding the final twist to the goings-on was the bizarre legal battle on in the Punjab and Haryana High Court over the revival of the Vidhan Sabha dissolved in 1988. The Akali Dal (Longowal) fought for the assembly's revival; the Akali Dal(M) opposed it; and the Akali Dal (Badal) was divided on the issue. While Badal himself opposed it, G.S. Tohra and Amarinder Singh confabulated with the Centre in an effort at reviving it.

The Government with its typically muddle-headed approach was also perhaps thinking that it was easier to revive the old assembly than hold elections for a fresh one. If a return to people's governance is the aim, then this would be one more step in the wrong direction. —KANWAR SANDHU

TAMIL NADU

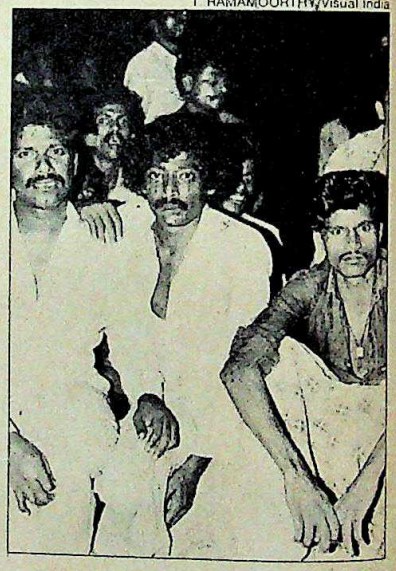
Great Escape

Search on for Auto Shankar

ANOTHER dramatic chapter was added to the Life and Times of Auto Shankar, when the legendary Tamil criminal pulled off a daring escape from Madras Central Jail along with four others last fortnight. Picked up on multiple murder and other charges in June 1988, Shankar's escape left the city—particularly the police and jail authorities—shell shocked and gave him the kind of notoriety that made Charles Sobhraj a household name.

Gowri alias 'Auto' Shankar, 33, is known to have friends in politics and the police, who could have helped him escape fearing he'd reveal their names as his case was scheduled to be heard

T. RAMAMOORTHY/Visual India



Shankar (centre) in jail: elusive

on September 12. When Shankar was arrested, four police officials were accused of aiding him.

On the night of August 20, Shankar and two persons accused in one of the cases against him, entered his cell. This, officials say, is not permissible under prison rules as no two persons accused in the same case are allowed to stay together. Worse, the door of the cell wasn't locked that night. Because one of the railings of the common hall outside the cell was bent and several footprints were found on both sides of the compound wall the

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

NEW SWEETEX LIGHT COMES AS A POWDER. IN A HANDY JAR WITH ITS OWN MEASURING SPOON. AS CONVENIENT TO USE AS SUGAR. ONE MEASURE IS ALL YOU NEED TO SWEETEN YOUR TEA OR COFFEE. THAT'S JUST 4 CALORIES—AS GOOD AS NOTHING. SWITCH TO SWEETEX LIGHT: THE NEW LIGHT-TASTE SWEETENER. STAYING OFF SUGAR HAS NEVER BEEN EASIER.

N E W S W E E T E X L I G H T

2 ROUNDED TEASPOONS OF SUGAR (PER CUP) = 64 CALORIES. 1 MEASURE OF SWEETEX LIGHT (PER CUP) = 4 CALORIES.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

SEE

"I've always resigned to fight. I've never resigned to run and go out of it." ...V.P. Singh in Dec. '89, ***NEWSTRACK***.

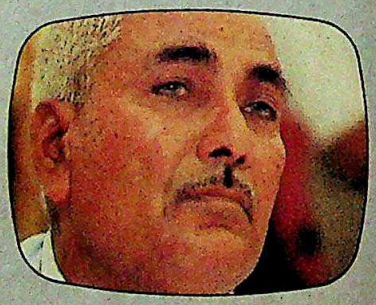
BETWEEN

"Tell me of a man or a woman who hasn't fallen in love outside the marriage fold." ...Dev Anand in April '90, ***NEWSTRACK***.

THE

"A man whose name does not make people squirm at night, his life has no meaning." ...Chautala in May '90, ***NEWSTRACK***.

LINES.



NEWSTRACK

NEWSTRACK, the country's first newsmagazine on video cassette, spells 90 minutes of excitement from the moment you press the 'play' button.

Never before features that cover people, places, events, ideas, issues and trends come alive and reveal details like no other medium has done before.

Taking you behind the news and the newsmakers for a fresh insight every month.

Yes, I want to subscribe to ***NEWSTRACK***. Enclosed is my subscription remittance by cheque/DD No. _____ dated _____ for

☐ Rs. 145/- for a single cassette of the current issue.

☐ Rs. _____ (Rs. 135/- each) for the back issues of the following month(s). of _____

☐ Rs. 1380/- for an annual subscription to ***NEWSTRACK*** commencing from the month of _____ and my free ***INDIA TODAY YEAR BOOK 1991***, an elegant desk diary worth Rs. 275/-. This offer is valid upto Dec. 31, 1990. Year Books will be delivered at your given address by the year end or early January 1991.

Please deliver my cassette to: Name _____

Address _____

Pin Code _____ Tel No. _____

Please draw remittance in favour of LIVING MEDIA INDIA LTD., and mail to LIVING MEDIA INDIA LTD., P.O. BOX 29, NEW DELHI-110 001.

Cheque/D.Ds payable at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras must be MICR only.

This coupon can also be used for subscription renewal. Please indicate your subscription no. _____

Here are some of the stories ***NEWSTRACK*** has carried in the past:

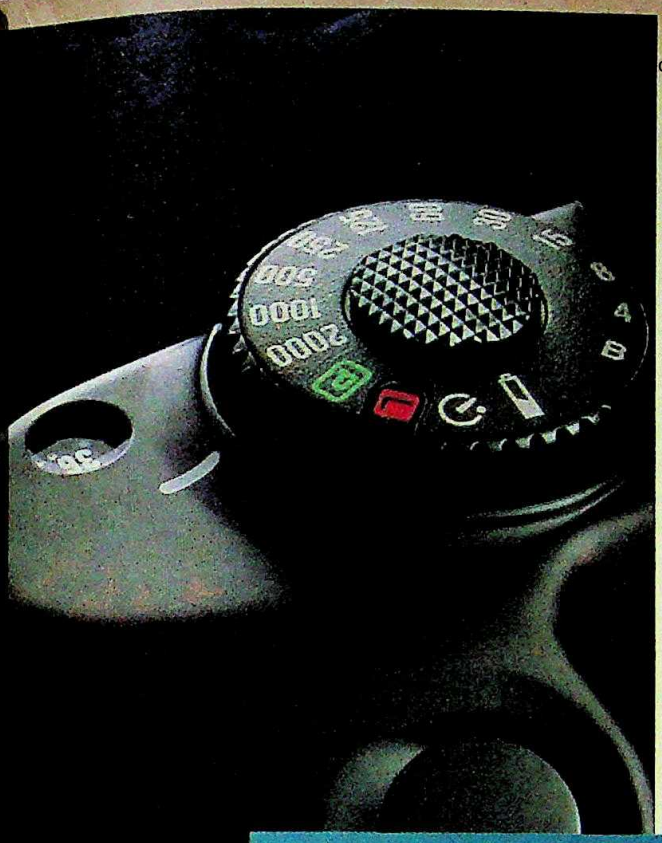
Mayhem in Meham, Kashmir Valley — Paradise Lost?, Delhi's Red Light children, Punjab Administration — two steps behind, and many more interesting features.

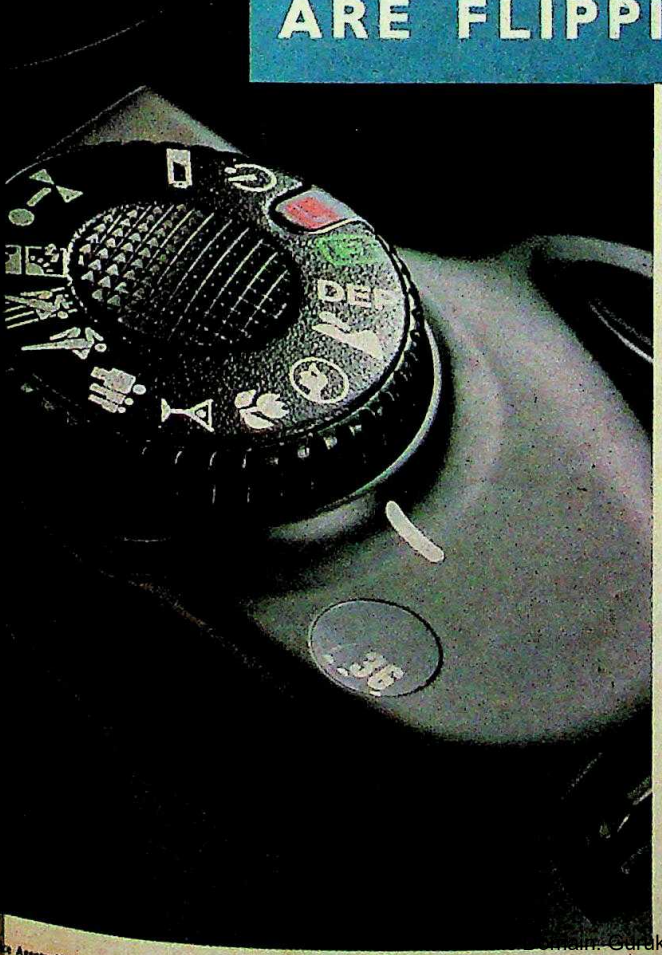
Also interviews with Devi Lal, Om Prakash Chautala, Benazir Bhutto, Imran Khan, Dev Anand, Ravi Shankar, and many others.

The newsmagazine to watch.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

dation Chennai and eGangotri





THE PROFESSIONAL CAMERA EVEN BEGINNERS ARE FLIPPING OVER

With the new EOS 700QD, Canon technolo hasn't just created another great addition to the awar winning EOS range. It's practically created two gre cameras in one. The real beauty of this ingenio new EOS lies in a unique Reversible Shutter Dial th lets you flip from manual shutter speeds to simp Programmed Image Control in seconds flat. The e result are pictures and effects that will excite everyo from a first-time SLR user to a serious professional. And since the Canon EOS 700QD is fully compatib with any of Canon's Lenses — from super wid angle fish-eye to ext long telephoto, we really do mean serious. Combining world-beating Canon standard features li an auto-retractable flash and EOS evaluative meteri in a sleek, but sturdy body, the new EOS 700QD a camera nobody can miss with. For a free colo brochure, complete and return the coupon today.

To: CANON HONGKONG TRADING CO. LTD.
Room 1101 Peninsula Centre, 67 Mody Road, Tsimshatsui East, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Tel No.: _____

Canon
EOS 700QD

Domain: Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

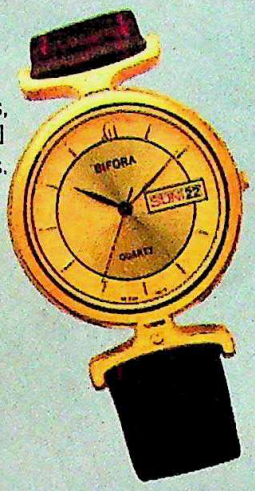
Agents: Mahatta & Co. P.O. Box 492, 59 M Block, Con Circus, New Delhi – 1 Phone: 3330008 K. Prabhakar 195, D.N. Road, 2nd Floor, Fort, Bombay 400 001. Phone: 263827 Deen Dayal Camera Repairers Municipal Market Shop No. B 1/3 Chikkadpally, Hyderabad – 20 A.P. Phone:

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

American Express,
club class and jet lag.
Model No. 62-9011
Rs. 648.34*

Drucker & Murphy's
Law over burgers and colas.
Model No. 62-8341
Rs. 606.24*

Conferences,
collaborations and
boardroom battles.
Model No. 62-9021
Rs. 602.03*



Presentations,
PCs and endless cups
of black coffee.
Model No. 62-8581
Rs. 667.28*

Bulls,
bears and blue chips.
Model No. 62-8631
Rs. 602.03*

Bifora brings out the best in you

BIFORA
QUARTZ

It's a watch to excel in. Bifora Quartz. Born of excellence. And an impeccable German lineage. With a hardy quartz movement that is a guarantee of perfection. And plating that will flawlessly outlast the years. Sold and serviced throughout the country. Bifora Quartz is from the people who pioneered quartz technology.

Bifora Quartz, with a 2-year confident guarantee.

Your time in your style.

Drafts, project reports
blunt pencils and razor minds.
Model No. 63-8591
Rs. 717.80*

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

* Max. recommended retail price. Local taxes extra.

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

morning after the escape, prison authorities believe this is the most likely route taken by the prisoners.

But as the connivance of the jail officials is still suspected over 12 junior level officials and warders have been suspended, of whom three were arrested. A day after the incident, the Government also suspended central jail superintendent K. Chelladurai for "dereliction of duty" and Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi told the Assembly that a judicial probe would be held into the incident.

Starting off as an autorickshaw driver, Shankar soon established a monopoly over the illicit liquor and flesh trade in his area. His clientele included top ministers in the MGR cabinet and senior police officials.

Shankar was picked up by the police for the first time on charges of murder after three bodies were found buried under his house. Eventually, he was charged with as many as six murders. Being behind bars hasn't chastened Shankar. A former inmate says Shankar could even get whisky in jail. Says he: "The only thing he couldn't get there perhaps was women."

DGP P. Dorai, who is coordinating the operation to find Shankar, is confident of nabbing him. "When he's caught we'll give you a more juicy story," he says. With Shankar's penchant for the outrageous that doesn't sound like an improbable claim.

—ANAND VISHWANATHAN

BOTTOMLINE BY D. BUNKER

Future Shock

OILS not well. Sod 'em Hussain's desert frolic has raised the frightening prospect of an unprecedented oil crisis. Finance Minister Madhu 'Nostradamus' Dandavate, with rare foresight, has already closed petrol pumps on Sundays. But more energy-saving measures are on the roads. A sneak preview of what's in store.

In order to set the highest possible example (literally), MP's will be wafted to and from Parliament in a giant hot air balloon specially designed by one of their own, Vishwa Bandu Gupta. The Finance Ministry estimates that this will be the single most effective energy-saving measure since the entire supply of hot air will be generated by the members themselves.

Government employees will now have a staggered working system. An exhausting study done by the Ministry of Working and Shirking discovered that there already existed a staggered system—employees staggered into work at all hours and 10 employees were already doing the work of one. It has been decided to formalise the system so that existing energy-saving measures (say 'No' to everything, for example) can be brought into official force.

Those government employees who have a record of frequent transfers (honest policemen, bureaucrats, judges, income tax officers, etc) will be provided with pogo sticks so that the country saves petrol on their frequent travelling. Extra pogo sticks will be ordered wholesale before every Lok Sabha or state election since that is when wholesale transfers usually take place.

Seats on public transport will be reserved strictly for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes since they have a lot of catching-up to do. To save petrol, buses and trains will be made into double-deckers with the lower castes at the bottom level and the SCs/STs on the top deck—as decreed by the Muddle Commission.

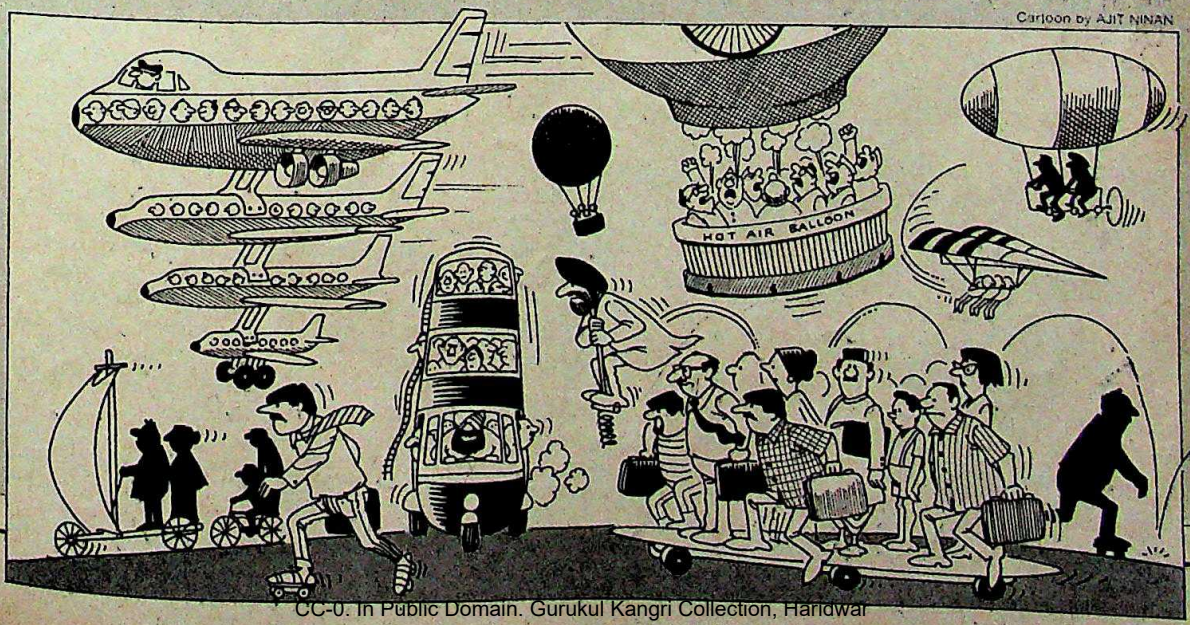
Fly-overs will be replaced by fly-unders. A five-year study done by the Energy Ministry has established the astonishing fact that vehicles consume less petrol going downhill than uphill. To save costs, the existing sewage systems (which don't work anyway) will now be utilised as fly-unders.

Air India and Indian Airlines will introduce three-in-one flights with their smaller aircraft towed by Jumbos to conserve fuel. This will formally introduce the third level airline. It will also allow the grounded Airbus A 320s to be re-inducted, leaving Arif Mohammed Khan with a clear conscience.

Commuters will be asked to travel on giant skateboards, called Saddam Specials. Commuters will also take turns in propelling the Special depending on which leg of the journey they are utilising. This joint-to-joint service will be based on a revolutionary convertible vehicle originally developed as the chassis for India's Main Battle Tank. During the monsoon season, it can be converted into a boat so commuters can paddle instead of push.

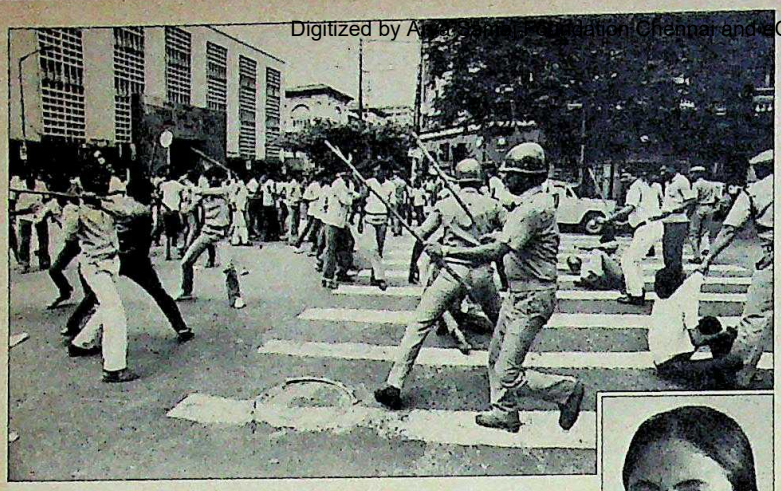
Prime Minister V.P.Singh will undertake padyatras throughout the country to save expense on V.(I).P tours.

Cartoon by AJIT NINAN



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



Police chasing demonstrators; (inset) Mamata Banerjee

WEST BENGAL

Poor Show

Left's image suffers dents

COMEUPPANCE appears to be lurking around the corner for the ruling Left Front in West Bengal. Its fabled organisational clout is weakening; its reputation for efficiency is on the wane; its bona fides are under severe stress. And after a long time the people are giving a ear to the Congress(I).

Last fortnight the distress of the Left Front was evident as the Congress(I) successfully organised a bandh in Calcutta to protest rising prices and a steep hike in public transport fares. Expecting violence, Chief Minister Jyoti Basu called upon the CPI(M) cadres to resist 'Congress(I) hooliganism', and ordered the police to arrest picketers and remove road-blocks. Also, the Left Front trade unions were told to ensure that buses and trams worked.

In the end this proved to be a case of overkill. Buses and trams came on the road, but there were no passengers. Nor were there any pickets or road-blocks to warrant action by the police. And, ironically, it was supporters of the ruling party who launched a murderous assault on the Congress(I) stormy petrel, Mamata Banerjee, a former MP, who was leading a small and unarmed procession of party workers.

The assault and unprecedented success of the bandh stunned the Left Front and Basu cut a sorry figure when he claimed that it had been a 'total failure'. Said Pranab Mukherjee, Congress(I) leader and former union finance minister: "The chief minister behaved like a petulant child."

The Left Front's efforts to convince the people that it had absolutely no control over the price rise were hampered by the fact that it was supporting the National Front Government at the Centre. Earlier, the state Government used to blame the Centre for all the state's ills. But prolonged power cuts, crumbling public utility services in Calcutta and a series of shocking assaults on women have severely damaged the Left Front's reputation.

There is a growing feeling that the CPI(M), the dominant partner in the Left Front, is fast losing control over its cadres. So much so that an embarrassed CPI(M) leadership was forced to admit that its supporters had assaulted Mamata and declared that the main culprit, one Lallu Alam who was identified in newspaper photographs, was being expelled from the party.

Though the CPI(M) claims to be planning a purge, critics feel it is unlikely to take place as assembly elections are scheduled for early 1992. Worse, even as differences between the Left Front partners come to the fore, Basu is seen to be getting isolated.

But there were more immediate crises. Barely had the furore over the hike in fares ebbed, with the state Government reducing fares in some cases, that the minister for power and energy, Probir Sengupta, reluctantly admitted that power cuts could not be completely ruled out during the upcoming Durga puja. Unless dramatic developments swing matters their way again, the Left Front appears bound for a rough roller-coaster ride.

—UTTAM SENGUPTA

NAGALAND

Killing Spree

Tribes go head-hunting

THE raid had all the ingredients of a blood-curdling horror film. War-cries resonated in the stillness of the night as the village in Tuensang district inhabited by Chang tribesmen was attacked by the warriors who belonged to the fierce tribe of Konyaks, who make up the backbone of the underground insurgent group, the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN).

While most of the Chang men managed to escape into the surrounding forests, the marauders went away with nearly 40 heads as trophies. The victims were mostly old men, women and children. The very next day, August 18, the Chang men killed three Konyak tribesmen including a policeman in a swift reprisal. Panic spread in the area following reports that a group of NSCN guerrillas were advancing towards the Tobu area where the grisly massacre took place. The beleaguered Government of Nagaland sought the help of the army to maintain peace and pleaded for Central reinforcements. But the immediate provocation for the killings remains a mystery.

The rivalry of the two tribes is however an old one. And the mutual distrust and hatred is such that for purchasing essential goods or even for medical attention, both tribesmen prefer to skirt each other's areas and travel much longer distances. Scarce cultivable land has generally been the bone of contention between these tribes separated by both culture and language. And with as many as 17 major tribes and a population of around nine lakh it is a difficult state to administer.

What has loosened the hold of the Government is political instability and financial profligacy. In fact a section of the policemen in Tuensang district had revolted just before the massacre, protesting against non-payment of salary. And the police are clearly in no position to maintain law and order in the state. While the massacre is unlikely to have an immediate political fall-out, reprisals seem to be a foregone conclusion. If the Government does not immediately take hold of the situation the state is likely to reverberate with the cries of revenge.

—UTTAM SENGUPTA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

No ban, no challenge... just a burning desire.

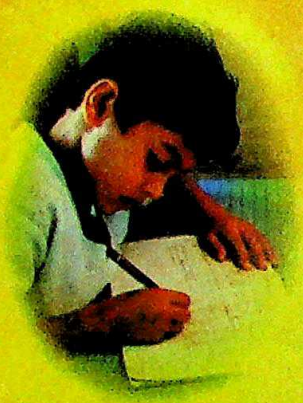
ONIDA. Neighbour's envy. Owner's pride.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Avenues O.430

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Dreams for sale...



OFFER OPEN

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

CANSTAR

Earn 50% or more return per annum for a lifetime on initial investment after 10 years

Canbank Mutual Fund has, since its inception, built up an excellent track record. The best of professional skills, financial acumen and intimate knowledge of the corporate world combine to bring to you high return, yet safe investment opportunities. Scheme after scheme, launched by us, has succeeded in turning market opportunities into lucrative returns. Look at the total payout of **CANSHARE** alone – **over 100%** in less than 30 months excluding market appreciation (Market price Rs. 22.50 as on 31st July, 1990).

HIGHLIGHTS

- A well established Mutual Fund with the largest investor base
- Professionally managed with proven track record of success
- Tax benefit under Section 80L of the Income-tax Act, 1961 upto Rs. 10,000/- or Capital Gains* benefit under Income-tax Act
- Easy encashability – to be listed on Bombay and other Stock Exchanges after one year
- Buy back any time after three years
- Easy Transferability

* Separate application forms available

Minimum Repurchase price for 1000 Canstars:

A. On completion of:

3 Years	–	Rs. 15,150
4 Years	–	Rs. 17,400
5 Years	–	Rs. 20,000
6 Years	–	Rs. 23,000
7 Years	–	Rs. 26,500
8 Years	–	Rs. 30,500
9 Years	–	Rs. 35,000
10 Years	–	Rs. 40,000

B. Option on completion of 10 years
Receive monthly income @ 12.50% p.a. calculated on accumulated amount
and
Receive an annual bonus/appreciation from the 11th year onwards

GROWTH WITH SECURITY

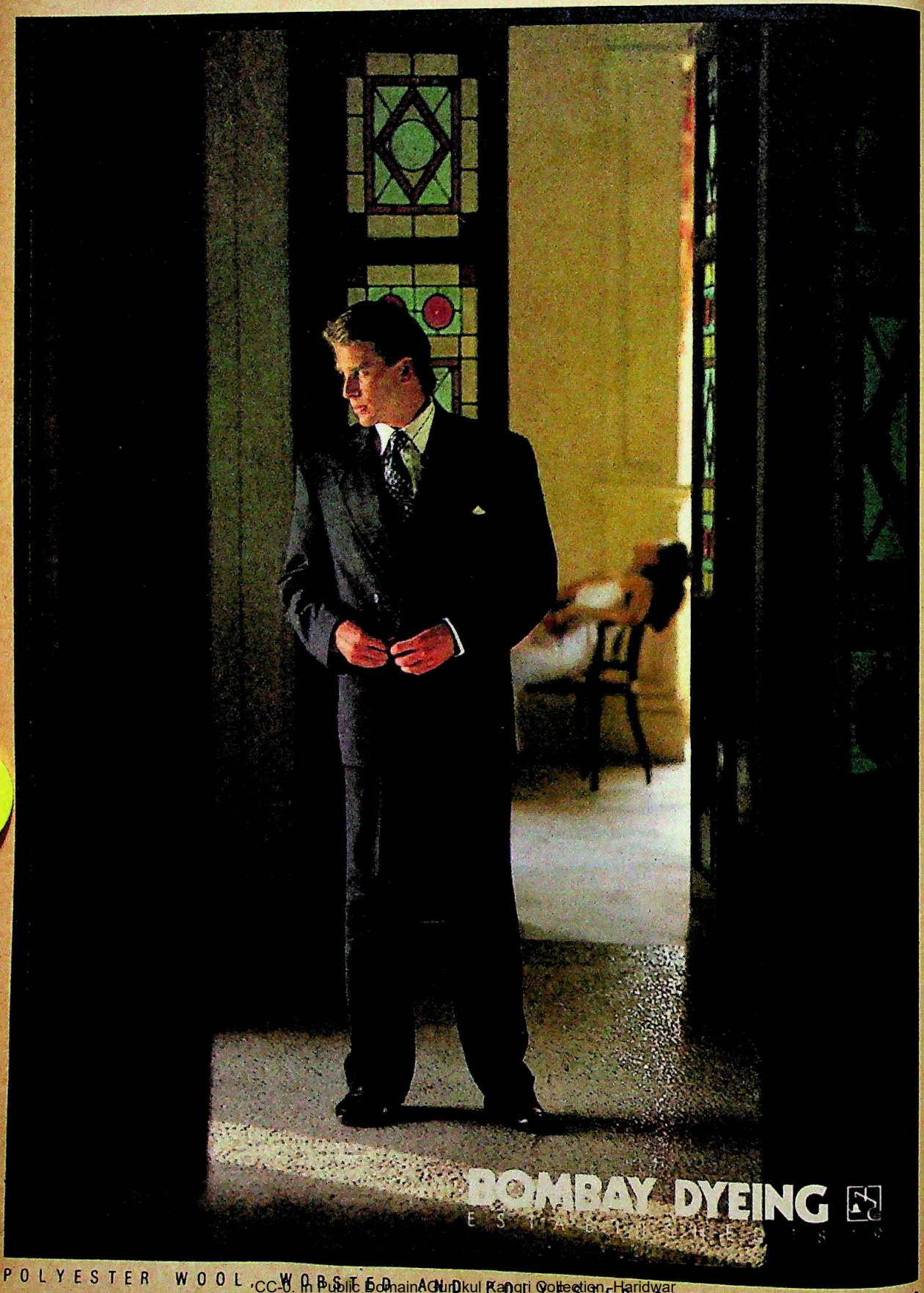
CANBANK MUTUAL FUND
Orient House, Adi Marzban Path (Mangalore Street), Bombay 400 038
Principal Trustee : CANARA BANK
Always a step ahead

Concept

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Cezari
SUITINGS FROM THE CEZARI COLLECTION



POLYESTER WOOL WORSTED AND POLYESTER BLENDED SUITINGS

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

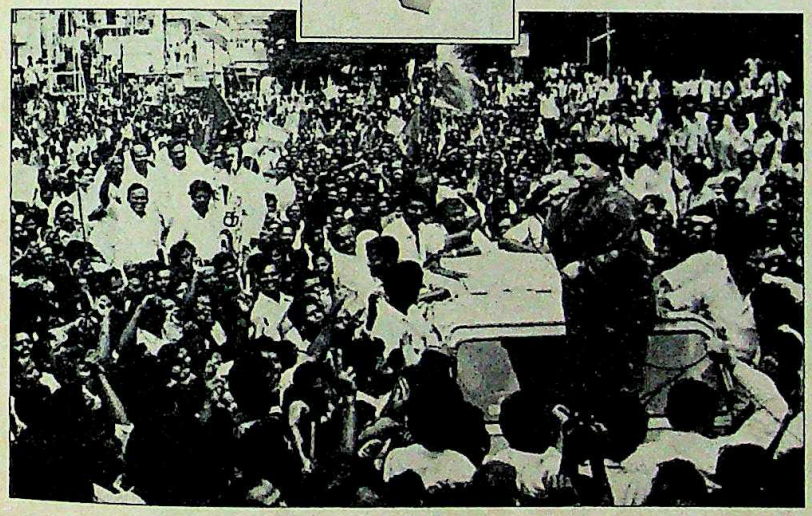
AIADMK

Split Within

Jayalalitha faces revolt

THE bigger the political mess, the greater the attention it attracts. That's exactly what's happening to the AIADMK, where Jayalalitha recently sparked off a month-long drama by expelling 16 party members—of whom three, including former ministers S. Thirunavukkarasu and K. Ramachandran were MLAs—for reasons best known to herself. What followed often bordered on the farcical: a bid to take over the party headquarters by the rival AIADMK groups, a fast by Jayalalitha to bolster her claim to the headquarters, a counter fast by the rebels, and an assembly session where the two factions bickered over seating arrangements, resulting in their being thrown out.

SUBHANEWS



Thirunavukkarasu (inset) and Jayalalitha.

Jayalalitha's autocratic style combined with her crowd pulling ability had so far kept even those politicians in line who were heavyweights during MGR's time. But unlike S. Ramachandran or Nedunchezian, Thirunavukkarasu refuses to be swept aside and forgotten. And to his credit, he now has the support of seven of the party's 29 MLAs. He needs the backing of just three more to command the support of one-third of the MLAs, which would strengthen his claim to the headquarters and that of an alternative AIADMK.

That Jayalalitha does indeed have her back to the wall became clear when she dithered over expelling the four MLAs who later extended support to Thirunavukkarasu and condemned her style of functioning. As things stand now, one of her supporters has issued a statement saying the party is "considering" expelling the MLAs.

As for the three MLAs expelled earlier, the court has allowed them to continue as AIADMK members for the time being. Even the squabble over the headquarters is likely to end up in court as the police sealed the building after the rival factions clashed there.

Jayalalitha, as always, blamed Karunanidhi for all her problems. To add to the confusion, Thirunavukkarasu also charged the chief minister of supporting the Jayalalitha faction. Retorted PWD Minister Durai Murugaan: "Even if there's a quarrel between a husband and wife they'll blame Karunanidhi."

One party which continues to give the lady a clean chit is the Congress(I). PCC(I) chief Vazhappady Ramamurthy again reiterated his party's support for Jayalalitha. Earlier, Jayalalitha had reportedly called off her "indefinite" fast at Rajiv Gandhi's request.

If the Congress(I) is continuing to support Jayalalitha it is because she still commands the largest following in the AIADMK. She has the backing of 22 MLAs, all the party's 11 MPs and most of the lower level functionaries.

And though Thirunavukkarasu is far from emerging as an alternative to Jayalalitha, he can be credited with one crucial achievement: jolting Jayalalitha out of her customary complacency. —KAVITHA SHETTY

KERALA

Censor State

Intelligentsia alienated

INTOLERANCE towards those who refuse to blindly toe the party line has cost the CPI(M)-led Left Democratic Front Government many supporters in Kerala—particularly among the intelligentsia. Last year it was Marxist intellectual P. Govinda Pillai who was censured for criticising the crackdown on students in Beijing. And last fortnight it was Dr R.V.G. Menon, director of the Agency for Non-conventional Energy and Rural Technology, who was unceremoniously sacked by Chief Minister E.K. Nayanar.

Menon's fault: to express fears about nuclear plants in the letters column of a Malayalam newspaper. He wrote that nuclear plants were dangerous and a financial burden: according to him harnessing solar energy made more sense. As the Nayanar Government is keen to promote a nuclear plant to wade over the looming power crisis, Menon was removed just before a team of the Atomic Energy Commission visited the state.

This episode came on the heels of several others that have alienated Kerala's intelligentsia. There was considerable disgruntlement over the fact that an educationist of the stature of Dr U.R Ananthamurthy, vice-chancellor of Mahatma Gandhi University in Kottayam chose to resign in protest against the state's union politics.

Another recent episode that had eroded the Government's image was the state-wide strike by doctors in protest against the arrest of Dr P.K. Gangadharan, president of the Kerala Government Medical Officers Association. The doctors believe that Gangadharan was framed on a bribery charge as he was critical of the Government's health policies. Many maintain this was done to embarrass his father-in-law, P.K. Vasudevan Nair, state secretary of the CPI, which has been having differences with its more dominant partner, the CPI(M).

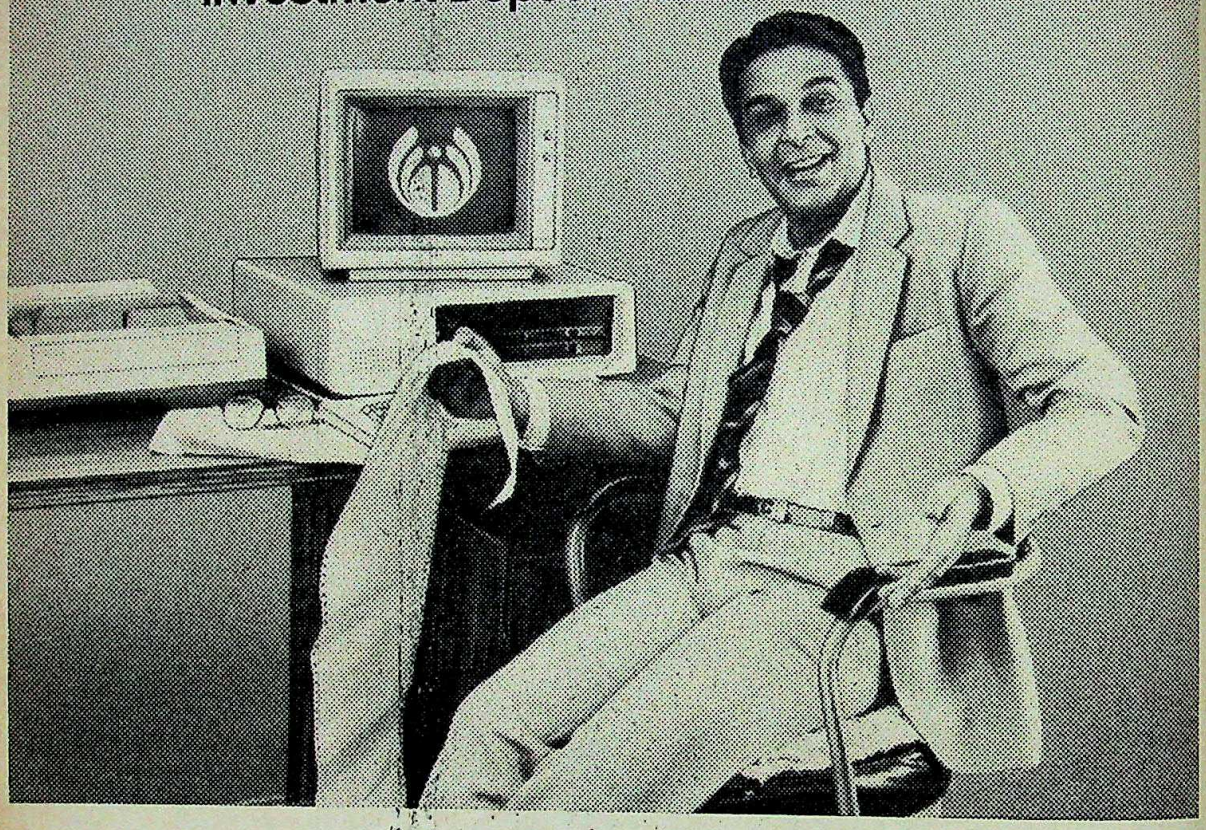
Whatever its strength on the ground, the CPI(M) in Kerala is turning many friends into foes by following a style that's become dated throughout the post-Gorbachev-and-glasnost communist world. —RAMESH MENON

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

IDBI

Investment Deposit Account Scheme



- Companies, Firms, Individuals & HUF, save tax on income assessable under the head **'Profits and Gains from Business or Profession'** as covered under Section 32 AB of the Income Tax Act 1961.
- **Deposits under the Scheme are deductible up to 20% of taxable income.**
- **The scheme is available for previous years ending upto March 31, 1990.** Deposits should be made **within 6 months of closure of assessee's accounting year or before filing of tax returns** whichever is earlier.
- **Deposits can be made by post.**
- **Interest @ 10% p.a. will be credited to the assessee's designated bank account on 1st April every year without tax deduction at source and can be freely withdrawn for any use.**
- **Principal** amounts of deposits **can be withdrawn after one year** for purchase of plant and machinery, computers etc. for the business or profession of the assessee.
- Outstation cheques are accepted and collection charges will be borne by IDBI. Date of deposit will be the date of receipt of cheque by IDBI.
- Demand drafts received by IDBI within 10 days of issue, will get credit from the date of the draft.

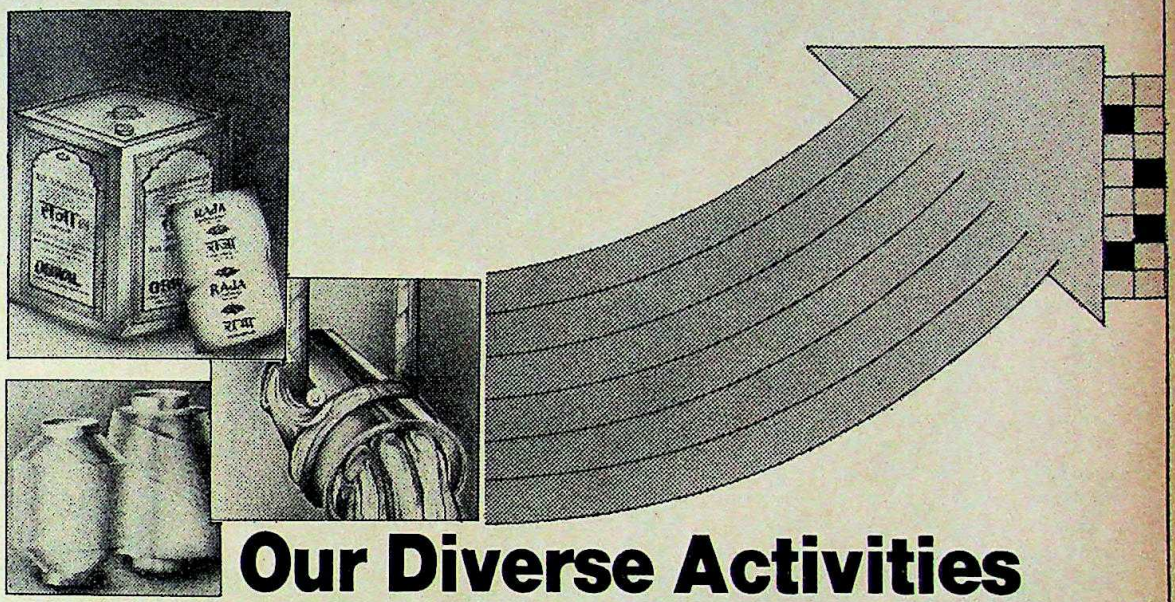
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK OF INDIA
'IDBI Tower' Cuffe Parade, Colaba, Bombay 400 005.

Sobhagya-90

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Vanaspati. Alloy Steel Castings. Textiles.



Our Diverse Activities Are In Perfect Harmony.

Vanaspati, Alloy Steel Castings, Textiles. At Oswal Spinning, strategic diversification contributes to rapid growth. And a continuous programme of modernisation, diversification and expansion has helped us achieve higher levels of productivity & profitability.

We continue to make major investments in our future. We have now embarked on a Major expansion/Modernisation plan at an outlay of Rs. 1418 lacs—doubling the capacity of our Vanaspati unit to 15,000 TPA and setting up a 200 TPD solvent extraction plant. All geared to take the Company to new heights in turnover and profitability.

To part finance the ambitious expansion-cum-diversification programme Oswal Spinning is making a Rights cum Public issue of 3,84,380 14% Fully Convertible Debentures of Rs. 200 each for cash at par and invites investors to share its prosperity.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Well established, profit making, company.
- Regular Dividend payment since 1986.
- Diversified activities in high growth areas—Vanaspati, Steel Textiles.
- Now undertaking major expansion and modernisation,—doubling of Vanaspati capacity to 15,000 TPA and setting up of 200 TPD Solvent Extraction Plant.
- Full conversion into Equity Shares—50% after six months and balance after eighteen months, of allotment.
- Preferential Allotments to UTI, LIC Mutual Fund, SBI Mutual Fund and Canbank Mutual Fund for Rs. 200 lacs in the public issue..
- Listing at Ahmedabad, Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Ludhiana Stock Exchanges.
- Interest @ 14% p.a. payable half-yearly.

Oswal SPINNING FULLY CONVERTIBLE DEBENTURES

Vanaspati • Steel • Textile

LEAD MANAGERS TO THE ISSUE

SBI Capital Markets Ltd. New Delhi

Industrial Finance Corporation of India New Delhi

CANBANK (Wholly owned by Canara Bank) New Delhi

PNB CAPITAL SERVICES LIMITED Ludhiana

RIGHTS ISSUE OPEN
PUBLIC ISSUE OPENS: 10TH SEPTEMBER, 1990

PRESSMAN

OSWM

OSWAL SPINNING & WEAVING MILLS LTD.

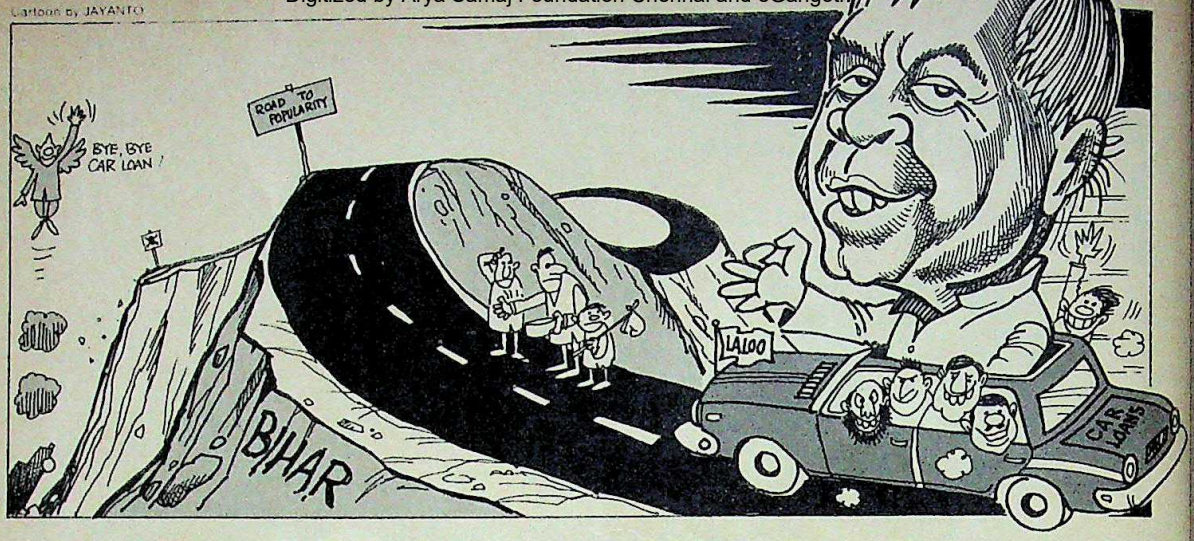
Registered Office: Oswal Road, Industrial Area 'A', Ludhiana 141 003.

Share the rewards of well diversified growth

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Cartoon by JAYANTO



BIHAR

On the Move

Vehicle mania hits politicians

THE Government of Bihar is soon going to be on the move like never before. And not all of it will have to do with efficiency and speed. Much of it will be attributable to the sets of wheels that Chief Minister Laloo Prasad Yadav is planning to install under the people's representatives.

Yadav may be able to woo the hoi polloi with his humble ways—such as keeping residence in a peon's quarters—but to win over the legislators he needs to adopt a more opulent tack. Hence his idea of providing interest-free car loans of Rs 1.65 lakh to each of the state's 385 legislators—325 MLAs and 60 MLCs, with 36 vacancies pending. While other moves with large financial implications may draw howls of protest from at least the opposition benches, this one has predictably not evoked a murmur of dissent. In fact, last fortnight when the Legislative Assembly was debating the bill providing for more facilities to legislators, two Congress(I) leaders—party Chief Whip Rajo Singh and former minister Kumud Ranjan Jha—could be heard urging the Government to expedite the scheme.

Ideas that the people's representatives wish to adopt, they easily find justifications for. So, Yadav has been saying the legislators are facing a lot of difficulties moving around in their constituencies. Supporting him vociferously has been Water Resources and Power Minister Jagdanand Singh who has asserted that in the absence of such rudimentary facilities legislators are forced to take obligations from contractors and engineers.

Such honest confessions notwithstanding, the scheme has baffled the state's finance department officials who wonder not only at the Rs 6.5 crore expense involved, but also at how they will realise the loans. This because legislators have a way of losing elections and slipping out of the purvey of the reclamation agencies. As it is, former ministers owe the state treasury Rs 50 lakh. According to a list furnished by Jagdanand Singh there are about 278 ex-ministers who are defaulters on this count, conveniently aided by loopholes in the Ministers Motor Car Advance Rule 1953, which is silent on how loans are to be recovered in the event of death or defeat in elections of the concerned minister. With calculated foresight no moves have been made to amend the rules. The list of defaulters includes two former chief ministers, who died long back—Mahamaya Prasad Sinha and Daroga Prasad Rai. The chief minister is of course determined to plug all loopholes. The foolproof arrangement being worked out involves a monthly deduction of at least Rs 2,000 from the legislator's emoluments, and in case of defeat in the next elections, deductions from his pension.

Good thinking. And there's a lot of this when it comes to providing facilities for the legislators. Veteran socialist leader Kapildeo Singh complains that the ruling Janata Dal legislators appear more eager than others to increase their perks even as they ignore the people's problems. But since charity begins at home, a legislator in Bihar can proudly claim to be perhaps the best looked after of his ilk in the land. He draws nearly Rs 10,000 a month as salary, allowances and perks. This includes Rs 1,000 as salary, Rs 2,000 as constituency allowance, a Rs 100 allowance per sitting of the House or a committee, unlimited first class train travel with two co-passengers within the state, free travel by state buses, and car allowance at the rate of Rs 3 per km. Plus, a house in Patna on nominal rent, with Rs 10,000 for furnishing and an annual Rs 1,000 for maintenance. Also: each MLA gets Rs 3 lakh for developmental schemes in his own constituency every year.

Contrast this with other realities of the state. The state's 67,566 villages have an average of 10 km of road per 100 sq km area against the national average of 22.23 km. And 47,918 villages have a problem of drinking water availability. About 270 villages have no drinking water source at all. Moreover, about 50 per cent of the population still lives below the poverty line.

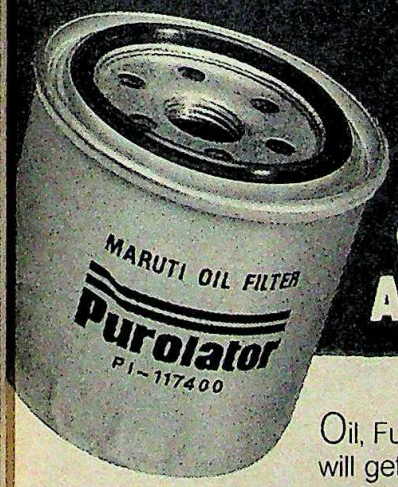
Meantime, vehicles are the crux of politics even with the state Congress(I). As many as 38 Congress(I) leaders are warding off efforts by the AICC(I) to reclaim the brand new jeeps, valued at Rs 70 lakh, which were given to them for campaigning during the last general elections. Among the elusive beneficiaries are two former chief ministers, four former Central ministers, about six former state ministers and over a dozen former MPs.

With cars and jeeps abounding, Bihar's politicians are ready to roll. And the people of the state are clearly in for one more long ride. —FARZAND AHMED

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

DON'T BOTHER



ONLY IF OVERHAULING YOUR CAR ENGINE AFTER 50,000 KM IS NO BOTHER

Oil, Fuel and Air filters can decide the fate of your car engine. If they are inefficient, you will get dislocated valves, damaged piston rings, ruined cylinder walls, engine seizure, and over Rs. 7000/- in repair bills.

If they work — the way Purolator does — you will get the optimum 1,50,000 km. between overhauls, excellent trouble-free running, and low maintenance bills.

So, go ahead, insist on Purolator.
The filters your mechanic would highly recommend

Purolator
THE WORLD'S BEST SELLING FILTERS

A member of the ANAND group of companies

ULKA-D-PIL-826-3

0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

SIGN POSTS

CELEBRATED: Rajiv Gandhi's 46th birthday on August 20. The party, however, was mainly confined to the Congress(I) with workers and leaders jostling each other to garland the birthday boy. While the President sent greetings through his ADC, Prime Minister V.P. Singh preferred to convey his congratulations over the telephone.

TEST-FIRED: Akash, India's latest and most modern multi-target surface-to-air missile from the interim test range at Chandipur in Orissa. Akash is the fifth indigenously designed missile. The success of the missile programme may be the reason for rumours that Abdul Kalam, the brain behind the project, is to be appointed scientific adviser to the Defence Ministry.

DIVESTED: L.P. Sihare, of his post of director-general, National Museum, Delhi. His new designation is the innocuous-sounding Officer on Special Duty. A widely respected figure on the international museum scene, Sihare was ostensibly axed for serving liquor within the museum premises to Asian Development Bank delegates.

APPOINTED: S. Jaipal Reddy as the official spokesman of the Janata Dal. Reddy, who belongs to the V.P. Singh faction of the party, emerged as the consensus candidate after a great deal of backroom manoeuvring. He has, in any case, been performing the role of unofficial spokesman with some success.

SANK: INS Andaman, a Soviet-made Petya class warship of the Indian Navy in the Bay of Bengal. The warship got caught in rough seas while taking part in a fleet exercise. Other ships rescued 118 personnel; 15 are missing.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Introducing HDFC HOME IMPROVEMENT LOANS

Wouldn't you like to give your old home a fresh lease of life?

Over the years, even a well-constructed home needs maintenance and repairs.

HDFC now goes beyond just housing loans, to providing comprehensive home assistance. The latest innovation in this direction is our new Home Improvement Loans.

Whether you reside in a flat, row house or bungalow, you can now obtain an HDFC loan to cover:

- External Repairs
- Waterproofing and Roofing
- Internal and External Painting
- Plumbing and Electrical Works

So now, you need not postpone your home improvement plans indefinitely.

Drop by at any of our branches or mail this coupon today.

Please send me a FREE brochure on HDFC HOME IMPROVEMENT LOANS.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

_____

Code: HIL/IT

H·D·F·C

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION LIMITED

Regd. Office: Bombay • Branches: Ahmedabad • Bangalore • Bhubaneswar • Bombay (Parel) • Calcutta • Chandigarh • Cochin • Coimbatore • Guwahati • Hyderabad • Hubli • Indore • Jaipur • Lucknow • Madras • New Delhi • Pune • Trivandrum • Vadodara • Vashi (New Bombay)

Mail to: HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION LIMITED

• **BOMBAY:** Ramon House, 169, Backbay Reclamation, Bombay 400 020. Phone: 220263, 220282, 220908, 231054, 231146 • **BANGALORE:** 20/2, Grant Road, Bangalore 560 001. Phone: 210438, 214600 • **CALCUTTA:** Cooke and Kelvey Bldg., 1st Floor,, 20, Old Court House St., Calcutta 700 001. Phone: 281981, 282146 • **NEW DELHI:** Palika Bhawan, 1st Floor, Sector 13, R.K. Puram, New Delhi 110 066. Phone: 603146, 603147 • **MADRAS:** 123, Marshalls Road, Egmore, Madras 600 008. Phone: 866574, 869575.

ULKA-12751

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

MADHYA PRADESH

The Love Bug

● CONGRESS(I) organisations throughout the country suffer from various ills. However, the party's Madhya Pradesh unit seems to have been afflicted by a rather peculiar one: what vivacious Youth Congress(I) leader Sarla Mishra describes as the "girl-friend syndrome".

Describing the symptoms at a recent party meeting in Bhopal, she alleged that only the girl-friends of high-ranking leaders could make it to the top in the party. Even though she didn't name anyone, the discomfiture of the leaders present was more than visible as she proceeded to cite cases when good-looking women had bagged important posts "solely through their connections".

On the other hand, she complained, unattached women like her who did not have patrons in high places were ignored despite their hard work. Although leaders haven't taken too kindly to such unsavoury charges, Mishra has remained undaunted. And to further

H.C. SAHU

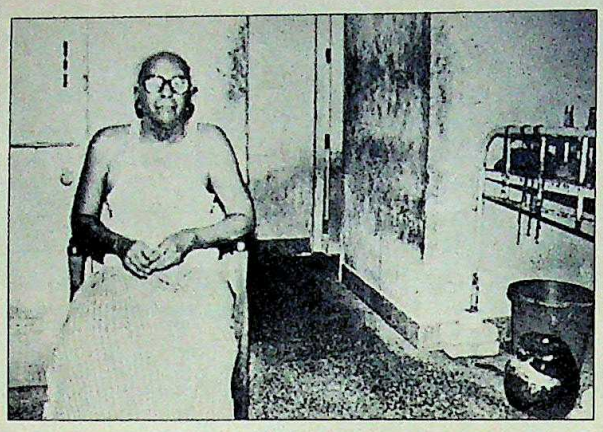
Mishra: solitary state

prove her point she is now busy compiling a list of "leaders and their girl-friends".

An immediate cure to this new malady that has struck the party seems highly unlikely. Unless, of course, the physicians decide to heal themselves.

KERALA

Feverish Worker



Namboodiripad: unflagging enthusiasm

● HE'S 83, hard of hearing and in very poor health. However, after a lifetime of feverish party work, the revolution still hath CPI(M) General Secretary E.M.S. Namboodiripad in thrall.

Admitted to the Ayurveda Research Centre in Trivandrum recently for stiffness of the legs and a swelling in the knee, Namboodiripad astonished both doctors and patients alike by diligently working at least eight hours a day. As part of his routine, he would begin the day by carefully ploughing through a huge pile of newspapers. And when that was done, he would sit down and work on articles for various Marxist publications. Obviously, his age and ill-health have not put a damper on the leftist leader's enthusiasm and revolutionary spirit.

After 18 days in hospital, the ageing revolutionary announced that the ayurvedic oil massages had made him much better. And then in his characteristic style he left the hospital with as little fanfare as he had come in.

KARNATAKA

Pressing for Justice

● JUDGES generally keep the press at arm's length. But D.R. Parameshwar Dayal, 64, is an exception. A retired judge from the Allahabad High Court, he apparently believes that the press is the best forum to secure justice.

For two months, the Karnataka Government did not pay him a salary while he was conducting the inquiry into the medical seat scandal involving Bharat Hegde, the son of the controversial former chief minister Ramakrishna Hegde. Worse, he was forced to pay the salaries of his staff members out of his own pocket.

On August 6, Dayal related his woes to a reporter who had come to find out when the commission would submit its report. The next day he told another reporter that nothing would come out of the findings of the inquiry. His complaints seem to have had an effect. On the fourth day, while another reporter was interviewing him Dayal received a government order sanctioning generous funds.

That hasn't assuaged Dayal whose complaints date from August 1989 when he took over the inquiry; his three predecessors had resigned for some reason or the other. "I will never head an inquiry commission again," he swears.

MAHARASHTRA

Flying High

● PAAN laced with cocaine has for decades been a part of Bombay's street scene. Famous not only for the tremendous high it causes, it is also believed to act as a very potent aphrodisiac. And in Bombay's red-light district, Kamatipura, it's called a *palang-tod*, which roughly translated means a cot-breaker.

Last fortnight, however, it was Maharashtra's Industry Minister, Bharat Bondre, who got smashed on a *palang-tod*. Driving from his posh south Bombay residence to Marine Drive for an after-dinner paan, he was served a *palang-tod* meant for another customer. Ex-

Bondre: unwittingly felled

pecting his regular paan of tobacco and khimam the minister was not prepared for this new heady sensation. Not knowing what had hit him, a dizzy Bondre immediately rushed to his doctor who diagnosed the malady accurately: the presence of a little cocaine in the system.

Word of the minister's nocturnal experience went around the Mantralaya the next day. And the minister decided it would be wiser to deny he had been floored by a *paan*. He went to the extent of saying that he had not been near the sea face for a very long time. After all you never know what people might think.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

The feel of velvet, the glow of pearls.

Drape your walls with velvet. See them glow with the lustre and sheen of the perfect pearl. Available in 23 elegant shades and 6 natural whites. The perfect finishing touch your lifestyle demands. The Velvet Touch !

ICI Dulux

Velvet Touch

For those who have everything, something more.

HTA 4109 R

CC-0. Panini Kanya Maha Vidyalaya Collection.

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

INDIA TODAY

PRESENTS

MUSIC TODAY

AUDIO CASSETTES
FOR YOUR LISTENING
PLEASURE

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

atish Sud Graphics/

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

OPEN YOUR EARS TO A BRILLIANT NEW SOUND. MUSIC TODAY OFFERS YOU A RICH CHOICE OF CAREFULLY SELECTED MUSIC ENHANCED BY THEMATIC PRESENTATION. TO GIVE YOU THE MOST PLEASURABLE AND PROFOUND EXPERIENCE OF THE MUSICAL EXPRESSION IN ITS MANY MOODS AND COLOURS. BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE LIVING LEGENDS OF OUR HERITAGE AND BY YOUNG TALENT WHO ARE LEGENDS IN THE MAKING. ORIGINALLY RECORDED ON STATE-OF-THE-ART STEREO EQUIPMENT AND DIGITALLY MASTERED FOR THE PUREST SOUND FIDELITY. MUSIC YOU CAN SELECT IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR HOME CONVENIENTLY DELIVERED ANYWHERE BY MAIL OR COURIER. BACKED BY THE INDIA TODAY ASSURANCE OF QUALITY AND RELIABILITY. MUSIC TODAY. KEEP AN EAR OPEN FOR IT AND LOOK OUT FOR OUR NEXT ANNOUNCEMENT.

MUSIC TODAY

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Zodiac for Hans Schmidt

The latest to capture the imagination of the Germans is not automobiles.

At 220 km/h, the Germans are sitting up and noticing the fastest moving fashions to hit the road. Zodiac. Exported to Europe's leading fashion houses. The international look of the season is now parked in India. Slip into gear. And you'll appreciate why Herr Schmidt now chooses to test drive the latest - Zodiac.

The soul of Europe. The spirit of Zodiac.

Z O D I A C

SHIRTS TROUSERS TIES SOCKS BELTS WALLETS HANDKERCHIEVES

Only 10% of Zodiac's total production is sold in India.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

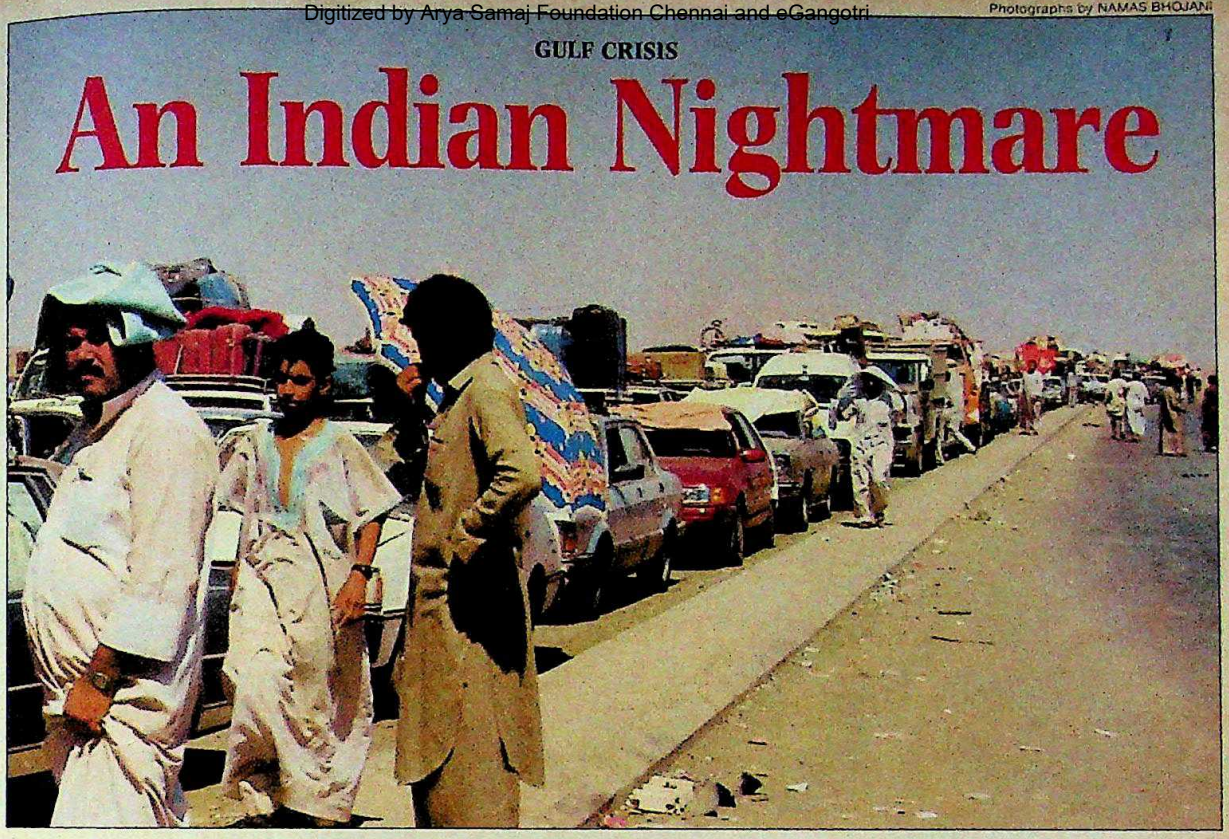
RHIZ

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Photographs by NAMAS BHOJANI

GULF CRISIS

An Indian Nightmare



■ Thousands of Indians and other nationals sweat it out at the desert border with Iraq waiting to enter Jordan

AT the solitary Jordanian outpost of Al Ruwishied, that marks the beginning of no man's land between the Hashemite kingdom and neighbouring Iraq in the heart of the bleak Syrian Desert, the scene is reminiscent of a massive rush-hour traffic jam in Bombay. Except that the cars and trucks are swanky: Toyotas, Nissans, Mercedes. Weighed down in the sand under the load of suitcases and a desperate mass of humanity the caravan conveys a chilling idea of the dimensions of the great exodus currently on in the eastern fringes of the biblical lands. An exodus that could be prelude to Armageddon as a dictator's ambitions defy world opinion and bring armies from thousands of miles away to his borders.

The people at Jordan's borders fleeing Saddam Hussein's Iraq and Kuwait, his new acquisition, have left behind everything they had accumulated after years of hard work: cars, refrigerators, two-in-ones. Even gold lying in the vaults of closed banks. And yet they are the fortunate ones. They have at least had a chance to flee, unlike thousands of westerners forced to stay back, hostages in a ruthless game of power.

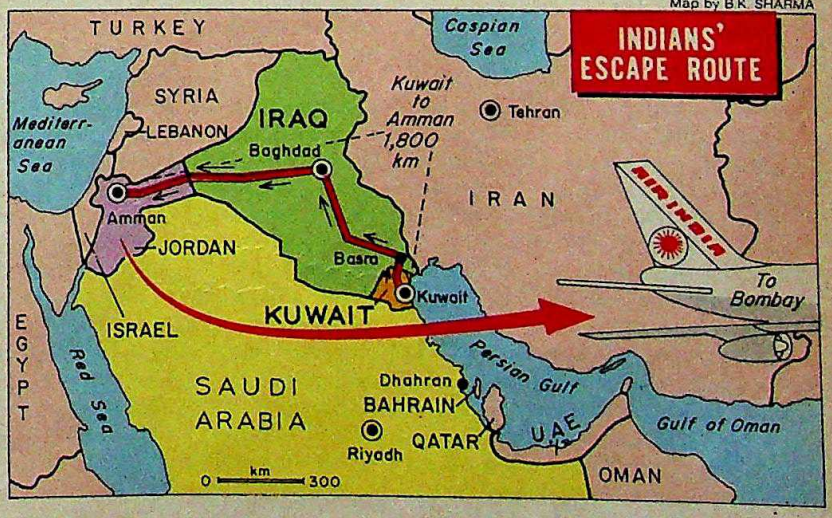
Those who have been able to leave have had to brave the desert, marauding greenhorn soldiers en route and scorching 50-degree heat. They have come in thousands: Egyptians in sweat-soaked *dishdashes*, Bangladeshis in tattered lungis, Pakistanis in dust-smeared Pathani outfits. And, of course, the ubiquitous Indians—Sikhs, Gujaratis, Maharashtrians, Goans, and Malayalees.

They haven't eaten properly for days, their hair is rough and covered with dust, their skin parched, their voices hoarse, their throats dry. Nearly 26,000 people, including around 2,000 Indians, cross Iraq every day and reach Ruwishied.

The Iraq-Jordan highway presents a grim picture. On one side of the road, cargo is headed towards Iraq from the Jordanian port of Aqaba, cocking a snook at UN-inspired sanctions. On the other side of the road, miserable thousands trace a new escape route in a land that has seen countless migrations through millennia.

Whichever way the Gulf crisis ends—whether the US-led forces clash

Map by B.K. SHARMA



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

After reaching Jordan, Indians throng the embassy in Amman, their principal problem being to secure flights home

with Iraq militarily or Saddam Hussein backs out—it has already taken a heavy toll as far as Indian interests are concerned. The sharply rising oil prices have put an unbearable strain on India's foreign exchange reserves. Then, the end of the Gulf dream for expatriate workers has closed one of the major exchange-earning avenues for India *(see box)*. And the tensions in the Islamic world where Pakistan last fortnight became an active participant with its decision to send troops to Saudi Arabia have forced India to make quick foreign policy adjustments.

Immediately, however, the biggest Indian concern is human. Nearly 1,65,000 Indians are still stuck inside Iraq and Kuwait, cut off from the rest of the world, their bank accounts inoperative, a lifetime's savings rendered worthless (since the Kuwaiti dinar has been devalued to a twelfth of its former value to equal the Iraqi dinar), and their property either stolen or destroyed. Those who have managed to escape have traversed inhospitable terrain across 1,800 km: from Kuwait to Basra, on to Baghdad, and then southwards to Amman, through the final, tiring home run through 75 km of no man's land.

Overnight, the influx into Amman has converted the Indian Embassy, set on a rolling hill, with its exquisitely manicured, dainty lawns, into a railway platform. Says Arun Goel, first secretary in the Indian Embassy in Baghdad who has been deputed for relief work: "It is like managing a Kumbh Mela without the resources."

HUNDREDS of Indians sit chock-a-block, on mattresses and chattais under a makeshift tent, unshaven and unkempt, playing cards or slowly munching alu-mutter and *khubus* (Arabian rotis), their first real meal in days, waiting for their name to be called out by the indefatigable crew of embassy officials and officers from the Ministry of External Affairs pressed into emergency service, on cancelled leaves from the missions in Baghdad, Beirut, Bahrain, and even from Delhi.

A skeletal Air India staff (Air India neither services Jordan nor does it have a general sales agent here) put together from Dubai by Regional Director Michael Mascarenhas, communicating round the clock between Dubai, Amman and Delhi, fills out tickets. Refugee demands range from the heart-rending but unrealistic (My family is still left behind, can I go back?) to mercenary (Where can I change money to get a good rate?).

Those who have managed to venture out are hardy young men, often bachelors. Those with families are unwilling to stir out of Kuwait, even when food has given out, water taps have run dry and electricity is in short supply. Night after night, they hear the threatening rat-tat-tat of machine guns, low-flying whines of military aircraft, and the roar of tanks.

Each returning Indian seems to have his own tale of woe. Abdul Wahab was jailed along with 200 other Indians. His crime: he worked in the Kuwaiti Ministry of the Interior near the border. Says he: "I hadn't eaten for 10 days in Basra jail." Particularly sad is the story of Ismail Jalali of Belgaum, poorer by Rs 25,000. Says he: "I paid that amount last month to get a job and I haven't even received my first salary. Now I am back, but I don't even know how I will go to Belgaum."

Everyone has had to leave in a hurry. Many have returned wearing their working clothes—fitters' overalls or cleaners' uniforms. Rahim Khan of Madras, clad in only a *dishdasha*, was picked up by policemen at 7 a.m. and taken to Basra jail. He did not have his passport, only his identity card from the Ministry of the Interior: a sure invitation for suspicion by Iraqi forces. The Indian

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

KUWAIT

When the Tanks Rolled In

THIS account of events in Kuwait was put together from interviews with the plane-load of Indians who came back with Foreign Minister I.K. Gujral:

THE building rattled. By the time the Baluja family opened the window, the tanks were everywhere, and bombs were falling. Ironically, it sounded like Diwali. "Whichever window we looked from we could only see black smoke," said Seema Baluja, 24, who was born and brought up in Kuwait. Some of the braver Indians rushed to supermarkets for food. The queues at the checkout counters were already a mile long.

Then, as Saddam Hussein placed a gigantic paw over the tiny kingdom, Kuwait was cut off. Indian families snuggled together and listened to the BBC.

But there were also a large number of Indian tourists and airline passengers stuck in hotels and for them, the first few days were almost fun. Cable News Network had Saddam Hussein on the air, all the time raising his hand in a Hitler-like action. Soon, everyone in the hotels was greeting everyone else the same way. And Saddam himself was given a new name: Sadma Hussein.

As law and order collapsed, the Gold Souc—Kuwait's dazzling gold market worth billions—was looted. Next came the Rolex and Mercedes Benz showrooms. Soon, Kuwait turned into a ghost town, and nothing showed the scars of war as much as Gulf Road, which runs along the sea. "You could see Mercedes and Porsches smashed and the windows of most of the homes are broken," said Lianne Esther Rodricks, an ex-Kuwait Airways stewardess.

It was good to be an Indian. Almost all the Kuwaiti-Indians who have got away say the Iraqi soldiers were "very nice"—young boys, most of whom had not yet started shaving. Some climbed on top of tanks and posed for pictures. Others hummed songs, keeping time on the triggers of their guns. Dr Sushama John, a psychiatrist from Kuwait, says: "They were actually begging for food and water." One Iraqi soldier asked an Indian family for some food—and gave a Rolex watch in exchange.

As food ran out, Charu Aneja, 18, hid whatever dinars she had at the bottom of a box of cornflakes. She was scared soldiers would come and ask for jewellery. "I didn't have any," she says, "but I was scared the soldiers would get mad so I tried to borrow some." Several Indians opened pavement shops selling their gadgets. Prices: 20 KD each (Rs 1,000 at the old exchange rate), for videos, TVs and refrigerators.

Other crazy things were happening. In a plush hotel that was functioning on a skeleton staff, a pretty Indian woman offered to help out. A few days later, the owner of the hotel called her and said: "Thank you, I'd like to give you a little gift." And handed her the keys to a red Ferrari. She couldn't bring the Ferrari back, but she brought back the keys.

While the Americans and British were rounded up and taken away, for the Indians in transit it was more frustration than fear. For weeks they had lived in the same clothes, without fresh air and sunshine. Their skins broke out in pimples.

Then I.K. Gujral arrived in Kuwait and women and children were called to leave with him. "Someone called me up and said your name is on for the flight," said Lianne Rodricks. "I had 30 minutes." She picked up only her guitar and a bottle of mineral water. Charu Aneja took only old pictures. Is there any other thing she wishes she had got back? "Yes, my father."

For many, that was when the shock began setting in. The shock of having lost it all. People from the microwave, cordless phone, two-in-one culture have come back broke. Worse, families are divided between India and Kuwait. Thomas Verghese, 56, has four daughters, and planned to return for good to India next year.

CHARU ANEJA

■ Indians returning in IAF Ilyushin with Gujral: fortunate few

Still, those who left on the flight were the lucky ones. Others tried their luck at the Jordan border where they heard the queues were 10 miles long. Babies got dehydrated and died. Those who made it to Baghdad, had an overwhelming sense of relief.

Many Indians cried when they saw the IAF plane at Baghdad airport. One woman told an Indian official: "I'm so proud to be an Indian." The flight had almost 200 people packed like sardines. Some played cards with the Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, K.P. Fabian, although they got more cramps than points. As the flight landed at Indira Gandhi International Airport six hours later and the familiar hot summer air hit them almost everyone broke into a chorus of "Bharat mata ki jai".

—SIMRAN BHARGAVA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

■ Embassy officials in Amman say handling the crisis is like managing a Kumbh Mela but without resources

Embassy in Baghdad found out about him and succeeded in getting him out. Now he is back in India.

Indians in Kuwait are stranded in more senses than one: the communication blackout prevents information flow. However, individuals in Bahrain have managed to send messages to Kuwait, using Cellular phones. The Indian Embassy in Kuwait, through a ham radio operator, contacted an operator in Nicosia, Cyprus, who in turn contacted the Indian Embassy there. However, that link was at best tenuous. The embassy in Amman now has four engineers from the National Informatics Centre in Delhi, who are establishing a computerised link with Baghdad and Delhi, and hopefully with Kuwait, using Arabsat.

The Indian ability to get things done subtly and quietly without any overt braggadocio is being viewed in Amman as a diplomatic success. India was the first country to begin airlifts, a full week before Pakistan or Egypt. India's foreign minister was the first foreign dignitary allowed into Kuwait. And Indian citizens are getting out of Iraq with much less hardship compared to those from other countries. At Ruwishied, most customs officials shake hands with Indians and say: "India Jordan friends. No problems." Says Union Minister for Energy and Civil Aviation Arif Mohammad Khan who toured Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and the UAE: "Our vital interests are affected and the concern is about Indians caught in war between two close friends of ours. We need room to manoeuvre."

WITHOUT the bellicosity of Americans who rushed in terming Saddam as the inheritor of the legacy of Khomeini and Gaddafi, or the pusillanimity of Gulf states India has made known to Iraq that it is against aggression, opposes the military intervention, and prefers that Kuwaitis determine their future. After Gujral's visit and meeting with Saddam, South Block's view is the dictator is in control and cannot be written off.

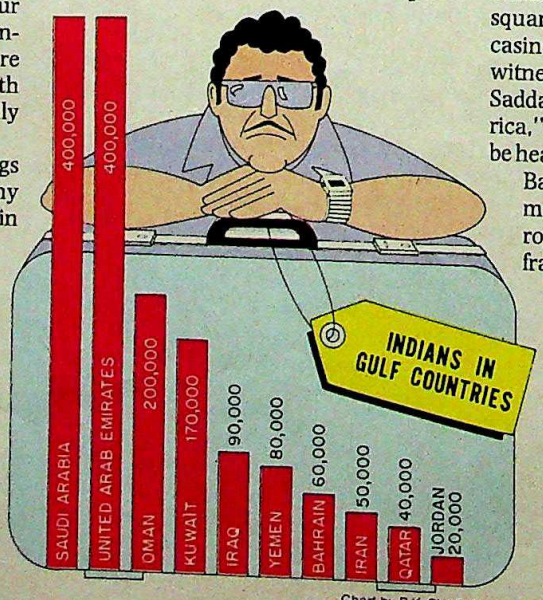


Chart by B.K. SHARMA

Within the Arab world, however, opinion is divided. Condemnation of Saddam hasn't been as unanimous as the West may have expected. But many in the not-so-rich Arab countries blame the richer oil sheikhdoms for being callous to the problems of fellow Arabs while lining their own pockets and squandering away petrodollars in the casinos of the West. Amman's streets witness daily demonstrations supporting Saddam. Slogans like "Death to America," heard usually in Teheran, can now be heard elsewhere too. Only Abu Dhabi, Bahrain and Qatar have seen Arabs marching in support of the Kuwaiti royal family. Arab unity, at best fragile, has been torn asunder. So in a shrewd move, Saddam has linked his withdrawal from Kuwait to Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank.

Even Indians had complaints about the arrogant Kuwaitis. Some of them mistreated Indian maids, exploited children, while others would sometimes refer to their Indian orderlies as "You Indian dog!" But Indians would swallow it, because the

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ECONOMY

The Double Crunch

THE Gulf crisis will strike India like a double-edged sword: bleeding the foreign exchange reserves by hiking the oil import bill and eventually slashing a huge chunk of NRI remittances.

If anything is more inflammable than oil, it is the price of oil. A week after Iraqi troops entered Kuwait, spot prices of crude from the Gulf—under whose desert sands lie two-thirds of the world's oil reserves—jumped from around $17 a barrel to $23, then shot up to $27, eventually crossing $30.

For India, already in the throes of a severe balance of payments crisis, the consequences can be disastrous. In February this year, the Petroleum Ministry asked the Government for Rs 8,600 crore in foreign exchange to import crude oil and petroleum products during the current year. The Finance Ministry put its foot down and told the Petroleum Ministry to peg the 1990-91 import bill at last year's level of Rs 6,400 crore.

Now, government spokesmen say that the country will be lucky if it can contain the oil import bill at around Rs 8,500 crore. Industry experts claim that the final figure may cross the Rs 10,000-crore mark.

Even as the import bill is soaring, one key source of foreign exchange is expected to shrink. Remittances from Indians in the Middle East accounted for about 40 per cent of all NRI deposits, which stood at around Rs 18,000 crore early this year.

However with more than one lakh Indians working in hot-spots like Kuwait, Iraq and Saudi Arabia planning to return home, the future of NRI remittances appeared uncertain. In the short run, deposits are expected to rise as many Indians are liquidating their personal savings in the Gulf and parking them in foreign currency non-resident (FCNR) deposit schemes—which earn a higher interest rate than domestic deposits. In the first three weeks after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, for instance, additional remittances from the Gulf are believed to have touched Rs 500 crore.

But bankers point out that if the conflagration continues, the homeward bound Indians won't return to the Gulf, resulting in the drying up of remittances. Moreover, as they start afresh in India, they will liquidate their FCNR accounts. Says B.N. Chaudhuri, Bank of Credit and Commerce International's chief executive officer in India: "There is no cause for panic yet. But everything depends on how fast the crisis is resolved."

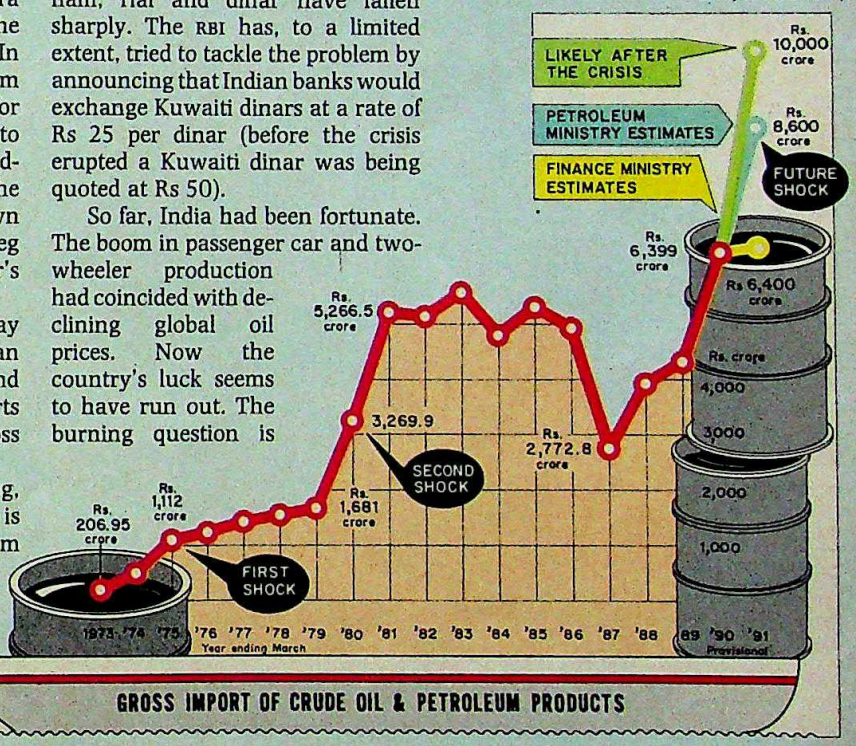
Another prickly issue is that the unofficial exchange rates of major Middle East currencies like the dirham, rial and dinar have fallen sharply. The RBI has, to a limited extent, tried to tackle the problem by announcing that Indian banks would exchange Kuwaiti dinars at a rate of Rs 25 per dinar (before the crisis erupted a Kuwaiti dinar was being quoted at Rs 50).

So far, India had been fortunate. The boom in passenger car and two-wheeler production had coincided with declining global oil prices. Now the country's luck seems to have run out. The burning question is whether the country will be able to import all the oil it requires—and at what price. Of the 19.5 million tonnes of crude and petroleum products it planned to import this year, close to 40 per cent was supposed to come from Iraq and Kuwait (including Soviet supplies via Iraq). Petroleum Minister M.S. Gurupadaswamy believes the shortfall will be bridged. He points out that the Soviet Union, Malaysia and Saudi Arabia have already agreed to step up supplies. "We are working on a war footing," says he.

But it's not going to be simple. Last year, petrol consumption had gone up by 14.5 per cent, the highest ever. The import bill too went up by more than 42 per cent, the steepest jump after the oil crises of 1973-74 and 1979-80—when the import bill had risen by 234 per cent and 92 per cent respectively.

This is one of the reasons why the Government has intensified its efforts to curb oil consumption. Bureaucrats now have to pay for using official transport to and from work; there's a ban on movement of government vehicles during holidays; the excise duty on passenger cars was hiked by 10 per cent and the depreciation rate lowered by 13.3 per cent last fortnight. "We wish to dissuade the rich from purchasing more cars," says Finance Minister Madhu Dandavate.

Chart by B.K. SHARMA



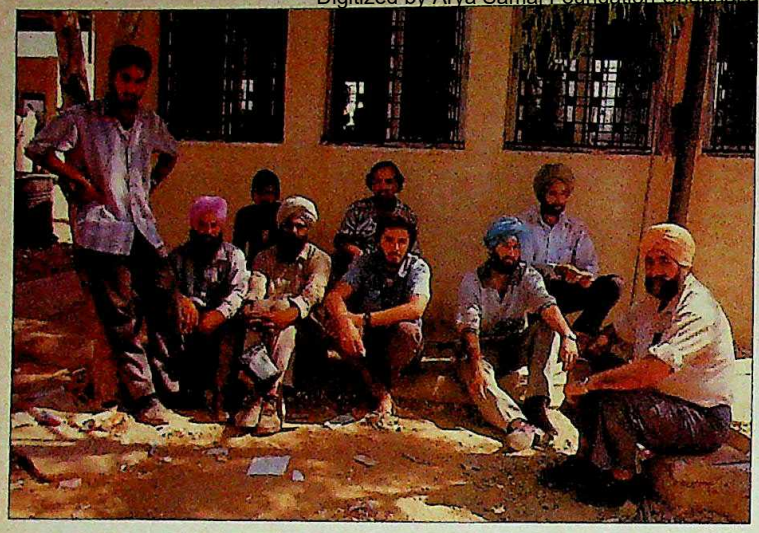
Not everyone is pessimistic about the hike in oil prices. Even at $30 a barrel, prices in real terms are still lower than those prevailing in the late '70s. Further, India's position will be no worse than that of other oil-importing countries. If anything, the country may even be slightly better off if it can stagger payments for oil imports to friendly countries like the USSR and Malaysia.

Still, these are only silver linings in the dark clouds on the horizon.

—PARANJOY GUHA THAKURTA and S.N. VASUKI

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



■ For Indian workers the current crisis marks the end of a golden dream

money kept rolling in.

Not anymore. Soon after the annexation of Kuwait, Indians made a beeline for banks, from Jeddah to Ras al Khaimah. Suddenly the Gulf boom seemed to have ended. The region had played host to over a million Indians for nearly two decades, who sent home nearly Rs 315 crore in remittances every year, transforming pockets of India from abject poverty to sudden opulence, dotted with gleaming if gaudy houses filled with two-in-ones, TVs, VCRs, fridges, air-conditioners, and bringing enormous amounts of foreign exchange to India (*see box*).

All this must change now. Businessmen in Dubai and masons in Dhaharan are fast converting their dinars and dirhams into dollars and deutschmarks. Bahrain, within range of Iraqi chemical weaponry and barely 150 km from Saudi Arabia where US troops are stationed, is the focus of panic. It prohibited money transfer beyond $2,000 daily per person. Says Rahul Petkar, area director, Middle East, Africa and Europe for Citibank: "The pace was uncontrollable. People would come carrying wads of currency and tell us: send it out." One foreign bank in Dubai sent out $40 million in one week (equivalent to about 10 weeks of normal business). In the first fortnight of the crisis, India received about $400 million. Citibank had to lock its doors to prevent people from gatecrashing after office hours.

But in Dubai Indian businessmen displayed a gung-ho spirit. Says takeover tycoon Manu Chhabria: "Everything is hunky-dory. Our business is not affected at all." Dubai's optimism is understandable. Saddam's focus is Saudi Arabia and the US troops arrayed there. Businessmen in Dubai are in fact hoping to make a killing, now that the Yankees have landed.

Ram Buxani, who has been in Dubai for 31 years and is the president of the NRI Economic Forum, says : "Troop arrival should help trade grow." One Indian businessman explained it succinctly: 50,000 American troops each require 10 litres of water daily, the kind of water Saudi springs cannot produce. UAE water suppliers have now a steady market for surplus capacity. Americans can't drink in Saudi Arabia, and for R&R (rest and recreation) they will have to come to Dubai. Americans will need food, soft drinks, other essential supplies, from all of which the UAE (which has permitted the multinational force to use the airbase at Bateen near Abu Dhabi) stands to benefit. "Kuwaitis are settling in Dubai," Chhabria says. "I feel there is an opportunity now."

Nevertheless, even if they do not see any immediate threat people do not want to take chances. Air India officials say that the booking-to-travel ratio was more than 3:1. Reason: people book seats even if they have no plans to fly. One man booked himself on eight flights leaving Dubai and Abu Dhabi, and didn't show up for any.

The problems for individuals apart, the Gulf crisis confronts India with a threefold crisis. Remittances from the Gulf will begin to taper off. Also, India can't expect repayment of the Iraqi debt, exceeding $500 million, for quite some time. Similarly, Indian companies will face uncertainties about payments. And oil, now worth $32 a barrel, will be in short supply since 40 per cent of Indian supplies come from Iraq and Kuwait, both under economic sanctions which India adheres to. Together, these factors will create a giant hole in the national pocket, estimated at over Rs 3,000 crore.

The long-term sociological consequences are mind-blowing. Perhaps the worst-hit state will be Kerala: of the over seven lakh Malayalees in the Gulf, more than one lakh are in Kuwait. The flood of remittances from the Gulf will thin down considerably now. And the pauperisation of the Gulf elite will be the first consequence. Sahar airport last fortnight provided a glimpse of things to come when a Gulf returnee told a beggar: "Amma, all I have is my clothes."

—SALIL TRIPATHI in Amman, Dubai and Abu Dhabi with RAMESH MENON in Trivandrum

ABDUL SHEKHLY

"We'll fight back"

ABDUL Wadood Shekhly, 60, Iraq's ambassador to India, spiritedly defends his country's case:

On withdrawing from Kuwait: Israelis occupy Golan Heights and parts of Jordan. Syrians occupy parts of Lebanon. Americans occupy the holy lands. But history shows Kuwait was always part of Iraq.

On the US presence: The Americans drink, do this thing and that thing. We Muslims don't like that on our holy lands.

On the possibility of war: If the Americans want war, we'll reply strongly. We have nothing against Americans and Europeans. But I am sorry to say, they'll return home with a lot of coffins.

On western hostages: During the Second World War Americans interned 100,000 US citizens of Japanese origin. How can they question us?

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

"I have nothing against feminists.
So long as they don't lose their feminity".

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

DIGJAM

Suitings for the Connoisseur

A Product of VXL India Ltd.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

MANDAL COMMISSION

DIVIDING TO RULE

by INDERJIT BADHWAR

IT was a decision that will live forever in infamy and become the benchmark of the descent of Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh from leader to demagogue. His announcement on August 7—two days before Devi Lal's kisan rally in New Delhi—that the Government would implement the recommendations of the Mandal Commission, was initially greeted as a master-stroke calculated to consolidate the backward castes as the new vote bank of the badly mauled Janata Dal.

That Singh was willy-nilly planting the seeds for a new political harvest became even more evident when he used the Red Fort as an electoral platform on Independence Day to reiterate his commitment to implementing the commission's recommendations, and appealed to the Scheduled Castes and Muslims by repeated references to Ambedkar and declaring Prophet Mohammed's birthday a public holiday.

But as events unfolded during the fortnight it became clear that what Singh was trying to reap was a harvest of shame. He had been reduced, like all power-hungry politicians before him, to a vote-hungry power broker shamelessly using the two elements that have ever bloodied and divided this nation—religion and caste.

Anti-reservation demonstration: future mortgaged to quotas

The anti-reservation stir has been spontaneous, lacking any kind of organised leadership.

During the last general election, he had benefited already from the religious divide caused by the Babri Masjid controversy. But few expected that he would play the caste card so brazenly. Implementing the Mandal Commission recommendations had been a part of his party's electoral platform but there was an unspoken understanding that discussion and consultation would precede their actual application.

The timing of the announcement was a sure indication of the cynicism with which Singh approached the matter. Soon after Devi Lal was bounced from the Cabinet, he was replaced in the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs (CCPA) by Sharad Yadav, a claimant to the national backward caste leadership. On August 6, when Yadav attended the first CCPA meeting, he joined the prime minister in suggesting that the Mandal report be implemented immediately. Its backers even went to the extent of openly citing its advantage in creating a "vote bank". Some members suggested that Singh discuss the matter with the BJP and the Left. Singh agreed.

But after a fashion. He called L.K. Advani and Harkishan Singh Surjeet and simply informed them. It was a fait accompli. The announcement followed on August 7. And all hell broke loose. Anti-reservation demonstrators hit the streets in most parts of north India. The south, except for Andhra Pradesh, remained more or less calm largely because over the years most castes have declared themselves as backwards with reservations in state jobs and colleges. The upper castes are minuscule in number. Gujarat, the hotbed of anti-reservationists, remained relatively quiet because ever since the Patel-led anti-reservation movement that dethroned Madhavsinh Solanki, the Patels have entrenched themselves in powerful positions. The chief minister is a Patel. In fact, Chimanbhai Patel has so far refused to rock his boat—he has not publicly endorsed the Centre's plan.

And all the major political parties—the Congress(I), the Left, the BJP—maintained a studied silence. They could not oppose a programme purportedly benefiting a vote bank they too were wooing. But as the frenzy on the streets mounted, the BJP and the Left grew restive. West Bengal Chief Minister Jyoti Basu wrote to Singh requesting inclusion of economically weaker sections in reservations. The BJP's L.K. Advani questioned the right of "a minority party" to implement the decision without consulting others, and its student wing, the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad, is agitating for reservations for economically weaker sections.

The Government, under pressure, hastily summoned another CCPA meeting and announced that it would also consider reserving 5 to 10 per cent jobs for the poor. The total reserved seats, in that case, added to the 22.5 per cent for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs); and 27 per cent for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) would jump to an astronomical 59.5 per cent.

It was clear that the Janata Dal was gunning for a political kill no matter what the cost. Its rabble-rousing belligerence was evident at a meeting of a large crowd of dwellers of unauthorised colonies in Delhi addressed by two Cabinet ministers—Ram Vilas Paswan, an SC, and Sharad Yadav. In the tradition of the Congress(I)'s corrupt political bosses, the two first promised to regularise their dwellings. Then taking political advantage of the situation, they exhorted the gather-

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

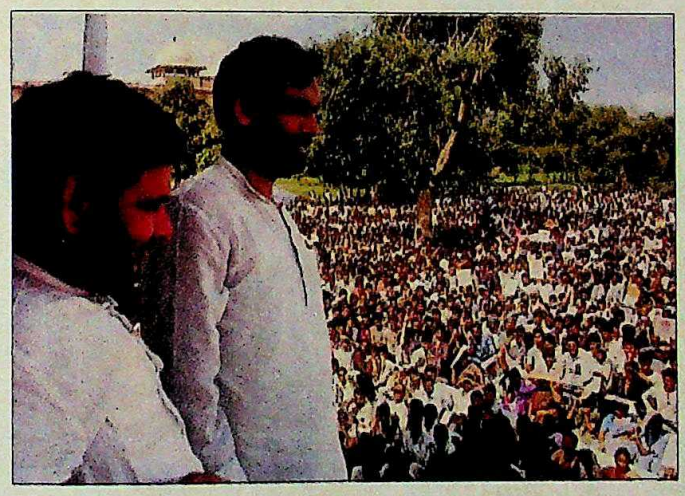
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ing to "give a fitting reply" to the anti-reservationists—an appeal that was given prominent display over national television. It appeared that the Government would even back a caste war for narrow partisan gain.

Meanwhile, those who were out on the streets were not necessarily rich upper-class students threatened by a loss of vested privilege. Nor were they protesting the quotas already reserved for the truly wretched of the earth—the traditionally battered SCs and STs. Most of them were ordinary people, the sons and daughters of clerks and teachers, for whom education offered the hope of a better world. Suddenly, that hope seemed snuffed out, with quotas being given to groups who already wield considerable political and economic clout, in a re-creation of traditional group hatreds.

In the northern states, anti-reservation agitations have a bloody record. In 1977-78 when Bihar chief minister Karpoori Thakur first suggested backward class reservations, 118 people lost their lives in the ensuing caste wars. In Gujarat, in 1985, Madhavsinh Solanki was dethroned when anti-reservation protests took a communal turn and left 15 dead. Early this year, 12 people were killed in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. The present agitation, though limited to students and still without cohesive leadership or political backing, could explode into a raging firestorm.

The tragedy is that fewer than 100,000 jobs are at stake. But at least they represent a fighting chance for the hard-working and the meritorious. Those left out of the merit race on the criterion of caste literally feel the world closing in on them as their universe of opportunity shrinks. What is worse is that the prime minister has pledged to implement a report and caste preferences that even its author admitted were unscientific.



Paswan and Sharad Yadav at a rally: rabble rousing

It appeared that the Government would even back a caste war for narrow partisan gains.

By bringing to the centrefold of this nation the concept of caste, Singh has indulged in an act of singular political immorality. A leader shines when he appeals to the highest common factor, not the lowest common denominator. But in the present case, Singh has succeeded in stirring up the basest passions and hatreds that have bedevilled this country.

This is the root of the problem. Ever since Independence, every school and every progressive pulpit has preached to the very youth who have now taken to the streets that to think in terms of caste is medieval, the very antithesis of what the founding fathers of this land considered to be modern. But suddenly, on the road to the 21st century the nation has been made to take a U-turn with the prime minister himself driving a molten shaft into the heart of progressive thinking.

Caste—the social division of man from man according to birth—was something that the nation liked to think was gradually receding before the onslaught of land reforms, economic growth, urbanisation, the growing power of the formerly exploited castes through the political process, and increasing social awareness imparted through education. But who would have thought that it would be revived and dinned into the country's consciousness by, of all people, a prime minister? He has raised the caste stakes from the highest pulpit in the land and has attempted to give them a veneer of respectability by cloaking them in the garb of social necessity. By raising caste to that height, V.P. Singh's Government has given the concept a perverse respectability.

AND this too, for the sake of what is at best an election gamble. Indian politicians have played with caste and religious configurations for the last 40 years. But the voters have reacted with an uncanny instinct and often befuddled all the best laid plans of cynical politicians. Rajiv Gandhi's Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and Panchayati Raj offerings were at least national programmes. Disagree with their contents or even condemn them as gimmicks but you could not fault them for violating the fundamental principles of merit, equality of opportunity for all, and a progressive society, as V.P. Singh's new caste-promotion has done. Still, the voters did not buy Rajiv's offerings.

The real hope is that the voters will eventually reject Singh's brand of gimmickry as well—that they will refuse to be used as cannon fodder for a politician making a pitch for them through divisions based on primeval hatreds. Perhaps they will answer V.P. Singh by letting him know that when they elected him they elected him as a national leader capable of uniting the nation and carrying it forward, and not as a leader of urban or rural or socially sectarian interests hellbent on dividing the people and leading them into the infernal divisions of the past.

Notwithstanding the constant attempts by politicians to manipulate through casteist and religious devices, the people have almost always delivered political verdicts that are direct and unambiguous. They have never let their leaders down. But always, their leaders have let them down. All through the last four decades politicians have behaved as if they own the state, as if it is their private property, to be milked indiscriminately for partisan benefit, no matter what the consequences. The latest reservations policy has reinforced the politicians' resolve to continue to use caste as their private milch cow.

Certainly, it has shattered the dreams of people who had a different vision of their country. Last fortnight, a lonely cyclist in tattered pyjamas pedalling his bike down one of the alleys in New Delhi's fashionable Connaught Place carried a placard that proclaimed: "Please, please, don't play with my future." He said it all. More than the angry rhetoric, the violence that has accompanied the anti-reservation demonstrations, that simple slogan was the most potent cry of anguish and despair against a government letting down its people.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

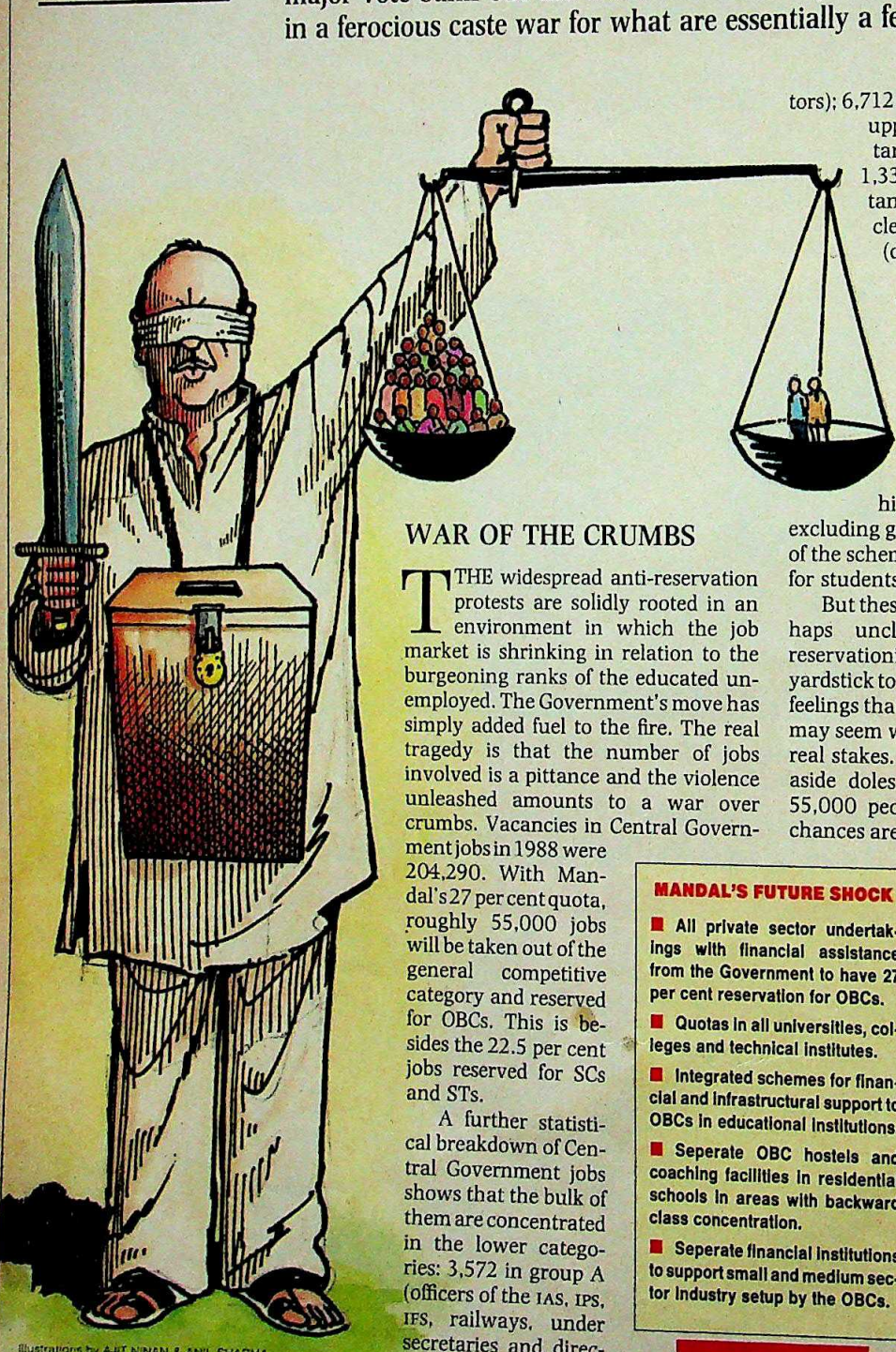
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

NEW RESERVATION POLICY

Apartheid, Indian Style

The V.P. Singh Government's sudden decision to implement the recommendations of the Mandal Commission may help it carve out a major vote-bank but the move threatens to pit Indian against Indian in a ferocious caste war for what are essentially a few crumbs.

by PANKAJ PACHAURI



Illustrations by AJIT NINAN & ANIL SHARMA

WAR OF THE CRUMBS

THE widespread anti-reservation protests are solidly rooted in an environment in which the job market is shrinking in relation to the burgeoning ranks of the educated unemployed. The Government's move has simply added fuel to the fire. The real tragedy is that the number of jobs involved is a pittance and the violence unleashed amounts to a war over crumbs. Vacancies in Central Government jobs in 1988 were 204,290. With Mandal's 27 per cent quota, roughly 55,000 jobs will be taken out of the general competitive category and reserved for OBCs. This is besides the 22.5 per cent jobs reserved for SCs and STs.

A further statistical breakdown of Central Government jobs shows that the bulk of them are concentrated in the lower categories: 3,572 in group A (officers of the IAS, IPS, IFS, railways, under secretaries and directors); 6,712 in group B (section officers, upper division clerks and assistant accounts officers); 1,33,934 in group C (office assistants and lower division clerks); and 60,072 in group D (drivers, peons and orderlies).

The university students who are agitating now are primarily from educated backgrounds and are certainly not fighting for the right to compete for a peon's job. So Mandal has actually set aside only 38,937 plum positions in the higher grades for the OBCs, excluding grade D jobs. And the impact of the scheme will be at best minuscule for students with higher education.

But these figures in themselves, perhaps unclear even to the anti-reservationists, are not the relevant yardstick to measure the intensity of the feelings that have erupted. The protests may seem way out of proportion to the real stakes. If the Government had set aside doles or welfare payments for 55,000 people on the basis of caste, chances are there wouldn't be a whimper of protest. But reserving jobs—the vehicles of future livelihood—on the basis of caste has touched a raw nerve. Students are objecting to the Government snatching their right to compete for a job, despite the high odds.

Given the rampant unemployment, the battle for jobs is Herculean *(see chart)*. In 1971, the country's employment exchanges gave placements to 5 lakh people in the organised public and private sectors

MANDAL'S FUTURE SHOCK

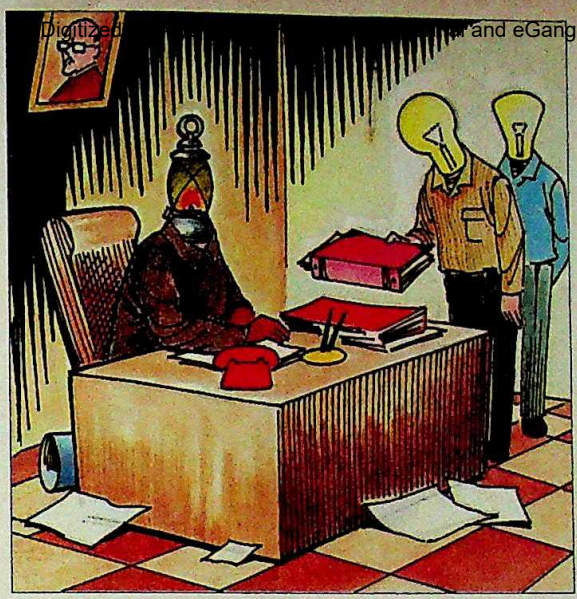
- All private sector undertakings with financial assistance from the Government to have 27 per cent reservation for OBCs.
- Quotas in all universities, colleges and technical institutes.
- Integrated schemes for financial and infrastructural support to OBCs in educational institutions.
- Seperate OBC hostels and coaching facilities in residential schools in areas with backward class concentration.
- Seperate financial institutions to support small and medium sector industry setup by the OBCs.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

But in 1988 the figure slid to 3.2 lakh. In contrast, while there were only 51 lakh registered unemployed in 1971, over 3 crore were listed in 1988. Over 28 lakh of them held graduate or post-graduate degrees.

Last year, for 4,522 jobs advertised by the Union Public Service Commission, there were 4.54 lakh applicants. With reservations just for SCs and STs, the odds of a candidate being selected in the general category through competition were 1:129; with the Mandal recommendations, they have sky-rocketed to 1:197. The Government move to carve a caste-based vote bank has let the genie of casteism uncontainably out of the bottle. In a monumental act of social irresponsibility it has chosen to foment a caste war over what are really crumbs.



One of the most alarming aspects of reservation is the drastic lowering of standards in medical and engineering colleges.

DIVIDE AND RULE

That the ruling party hastily pushed through the scheme without any consultations with its allies—the BJP and the Left parties—or even attempting to hammer out a semblance of a national consensus showed it was putting petty politics ahead of national interest. And the pugnacity with which ministers defended it showed how nakedly the V.P. Singh Government is playing the caste card. When the BJP suggested that Welfare Minister Ram Vilas Paswan open a dialogue with the protesting students, he thundered angrily: "This only shows how upper castes still resist any change in the system. Every political party promised Mandal Commission in its manifesto, now they want us to drag our feet."

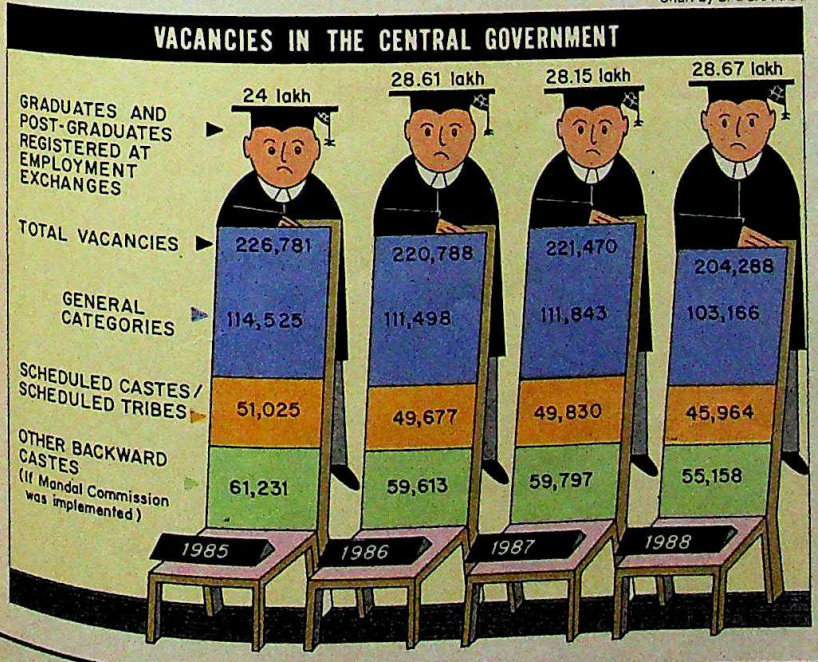
Ram Vilas Paswan's cocksureness reflected the cold and calculating strategy of the minority National Front Government's attempt to cement a new base for itself and at the same time throwing its opponents into a confused silence. V.P. Singh had three major compulsions in implementing the recommendations of the Mandal Commission which submitted its report ten years ago in 1980.

First, after he fell apart with Jat supremo Devi Lal, Singh's electoral arithmetic was shaky. One big chunk of his Ahir, Jat, Gujar and Rajput (AJGAR) alliance had suddenly slipped away. And two Janata Dal Governments in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar were also uneasy. Secondly, Singh needed a politically vested caste grouping to form a committed cadre in north India to start party offices at local levels to counter the Congress(I) monolith. And lastly, he needed to fragment the Hindus as a community in north India to blunt the BJP's *trishuls* of Hindu consolidation.

The Mandal Commission report was a handy sword with which to carve out a new caste realignment. It was nothing new. Indian politicians have for long used this gimmickry in the garb of social welfare to achieve petty political goals. From 1972 to 1978, Devraj Urs in Karnataka successfully split the dominant Lingayats by cajoling its various sub-castes into a political alliance with the Vokkaligas and then giving this new grouping 50 per cent reservations. Just about every caste, except Brahmins and Vyasas, and including the land-owning Lingayats have managed to qualify themselves as backwards. As a result, as much as 92 per cent of the population now falls under OBCs. In Tamil Nadu, the Dravida movement dismembered the Congress-created traditional political alliance between Brahmins and SCs and created a new ruling elite of the Vellials, Chettiars, Naidus, and Mudaliars for whom 31 per cent reservations were created.

In garnering the support of the politically backward landed castes, especially the Yadavs, Kurmis and Ahirs in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, Singh believes he will be able to counter the anti-reservation stir on the popular slogan of meting out social justice. This can also prove a winner in a mid-term poll. In Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, termed as "heart and head" of the nation by Singh, the strategy could well work. Muslims,

Chart by B.K. SHARMA

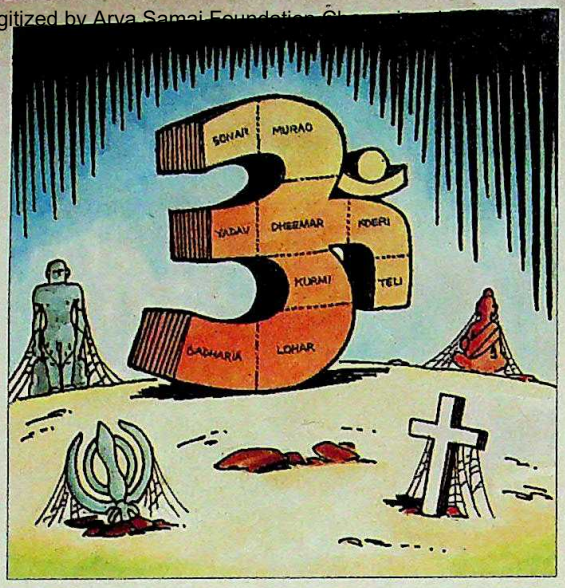


CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai

who still support the Janata Dal, and backwards constitute 51 per cent of the population in Uttar Pradesh and 54 per cent in Bihar. The two states send 139 members to the Lok Sabha.

But while this may be a politically viable strategy, calling it an exercise in social justice, as the prime minister tried to do, is just so much eyewash. The OBCs, besides being powerful land-owners, already exercise considerable political clout. For example, they constitute 40 per cent of the Bihar Assembly, 30 per cent of the Uttar Pradesh Assembly, and more than 50 per cent of the Karnataka Assembly. Twenty-five per cent of Singh's Cabinet consists of OBCs; and more than 40 per cent members in the present Lok Sabha have rural backgrounds. Said, Jagannath Mishra, former chief minister of Bihar: "As the Muslim League introduced communalism in the country before Independence, V.P. Singh has introduced politics of castes. Both are equally lethal for society."



The danger stems not just from inter-caste rivalry but also from a violent fragmentation of the whole system.

MURDER OF MERIT

Sanjay Bhatia, a Delhi graduate, appeared for the Indian Civil Services examination in 1979 and 1980 as a general category candidate and failed. In 1982, he was recommended by a former Delhi MP, Sajjan Kumar, to obtain a certificate as Adi Dharmi, an SC, to a magistrate who obliged. He cleared the examination and was undergoing training at the Mussoorie academy when the CBI filed a case against him for forgery for changing his caste because his father was an office-bearer in an all-Rajput organisation of the city. The case is pending in the court while Bhatia is serving the Haryana Police cadre. This case could be an exception, but it reveals the scope for manipulation in reserved quotas even in higher services.

The example also highlights the lure of, and the blind rush for, reservations. Every caste, whether owning land in the villages or with traditional occupations in the cities, lines up for its name in the preferential lists. And a whole society undergoes a synthetic transformation. Instead of a well-meaning social security scheme, reservations are reduced to a pseudo-biological dependency: a short-cut to jobs doled out.

One of the most alarming aspects of reservations is that they have been extended to educational and professional institutions in various states leading to a frightening lowering of standards in critical professions. For example, in the medical and engineering colleges of Uttar Pradesh, almost half the seats are reserved. The Government provides that the minimum marks for unreserved seats should be 60 per cent while it is 40 per cent for the reserved seats. Last year, the cut-off percentage in medical colleges for the non-reserved category was 77.6 per cent marks while for the reserved category the minimum marks required were 48 per cent. In the competition for engineering seats, the cut-off mark was 60 per cent for the general category students while it was a shocking 25 per cent for those who had seats reserved for them.

And that too on the basis of the caste, without taking into consideration the changing social environment. Says Subhash C. Kashyap, former secretary-general of the Lok Sabha: "We aimed at creating a casteless and egalitarian society. But by this decision, are we not moving towards a casteist one?"

The Constitution clearly says that reservations should be based on educational and economic backwardness. Mandal himself was of the view that social and educational backwardness was a "plausible" basis for reservations. But by hair-splitting, he argued that "the substitution of caste by economic tests will amount to ignoring the genesis of social backwardness in the Indian society". In fact, he sought to put the clock back. Since the time of the "genesis" of this social backwardness, the country has soared forward. Big land holdings, the former bastions of upper castes, have been fragmented and redistributed among the backward classes, 75 per cent of whom are from the villages. But the V.P. Singh Government has not shown similar alacrity to implement land reforms which even Mandal recommended vigorously. That would upset the entire caste cal-

RESERVED JOBS IN SOME STATE GOVTS.

	Uttar Pradesh	Karnataka	Bihar	Madhya Pradesh	Gujarat
SC	18	15	10	14	6
ST	2	3	14	23	15
Backward Classes	15	50	20	25	10
Others	15	—	6	—	—
TOTAL	50	68	50	62	31

(All figures in percentages)

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

culation and pit him against a strong lobby cutting across caste lines.

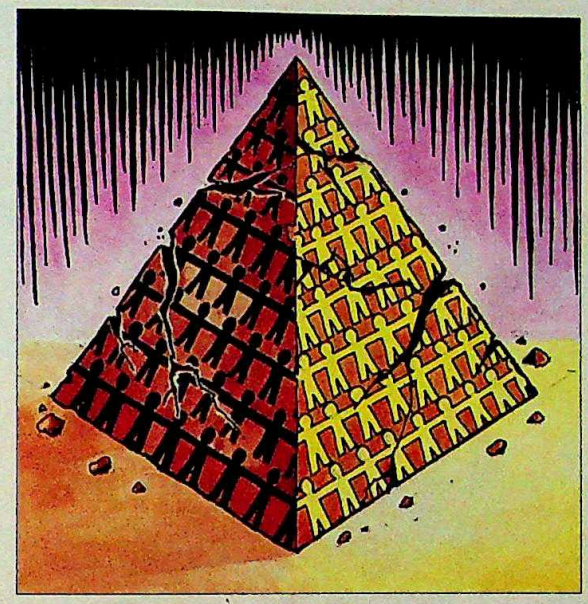
MANDAL'S MUDDLES

Mandal's methodology to identify the OBCs is also faulty and inadequate. His commission didn't even survey 1 per cent of India's total population. It, instead, covered only two villages and one urban block in each district of the country; and though it put out the questionnaire meant for general public and voluntary organisations in leading English and vernacular newspapers, it received a bare 1,872 replies in all. His basis for caste enumeration was the census data gathered by the British in 1891 and 1931. Moreover, the whole exercise of identifying the OBCs is based on the census of 1971.

The commission unwittingly owns up the drawbacks in its effort when it says: "This survey has no pretentions to being a piece of academic research. Throughout this survey our approach has been conditioned by practical considerations, realities of field conditions, constraints of resources and trained manpower and paucity of time. All these factors obviously militate against the requirements of a technically sophisticated and academically satisfying operation." The commission admits that such reservations will give rise to mediocrity: "Owing to their social and cultural handicaps, the OBCs may be generally a shade less competent."

Predictably, the commission has run into serious legal questioning. In 1985, a bench of the Supreme Court, led by chief justice Y.V. Chandrachud, clearly said on a petition against reservations filed by Karnataka's K.C. Vasanth Kumar: "If the state patronage for preferred treatment accepts caste as the only insignia for determining social and educational backwardness, the danger looms large that this approach alone would legitimise and perpetuate the caste system. It does not go well with our proclaimed secular character as enshrined in the Preamble to the Constitution."

The muddle on the Mandal Commission has only begun. The major problem will be how to accommodate the 3,743 castes and sub-castes identified by Mandal as backwards. As it is, government departments use a complicated 40-point roster with a combination of weightages and percentages and multiplications in order to identify which sub-caste to assign handicaps over the others in hiring and promotions. And the states already have their own lists of backward castes and reservations. There are many castes which figure in one state's list and not in that of its immediate neighbour's. In placements in Central Government jobs, it will create an insuperable logistical problem. If 3,743 castes are to be accommodated in 55,000 jobs, each caste will qualify for only about 14 jobs.



Reservations in government jobs will usher two parallel universes, divided and unequal. A dreadful prospect for governance.

INDIAN VERSUS INDIAN

By focusing attention on government job reservations, Singh may have created a fatal disincentive to the youths of the backward classes. The SCs and STs have traditionally preferred the clerical fields. Their representation in the technical fields like science and technology services is just 16 per cent; and 13 per cent in the department of atomic energy. But they have 21 per cent representation in revenue services and 19 per cent in policing agencies of the Home Ministry. Now the mass of the backward class youth too will look up to file-pushing jobs, ignoring other sectors. While exact figures are not available, government economists reveal that the fastest rate of growth in employment has been in the "tertiary sector"—which includes jobs like mechanics, carpenters, plumbers, blacksmiths and toolmakers.

And finally, these youth will end up in government departments where already the other preferred class—SCs and STs—are mockingly addressed as 'Sugar Charlie/Tango' (SC/T) by their peers who scoff at their relative incompetence. Thus, decades later, an apartheid, Indian style, will exist in government offices where two parallel universes will exist uncomfortably. And even promotions will be according to reserved quotas—and carried forward into successive years if the quotas are not filled—unavailable to qualified candidates who are not the "right caste". Hostilities will be natural. And the impact of these hostilities will divide the entire workforce in the organised public sector from top to bottom. A dreadful prospect for governance.

But the horror that looms ahead in the war for crumbs and the dangerously rising expectations of a people psychologically attuned to believe that a job is their birthright because of caste, is not just from the potential conflict between upper and backward castes. More dangerous battles could well erupt from rivalries amongst the backward castes. For the backwards, too, have an upper crust, such as the Yadavs, Kurmis, Koeris, as against the Telis, Muraos, Dheemars, Gadarias. The "upper backwards" are likely to be the immediate gainers. These tensions are already erupting in Bihar. And they could spread into a tumult of hatred and jealousies too traumatic to contemplate.

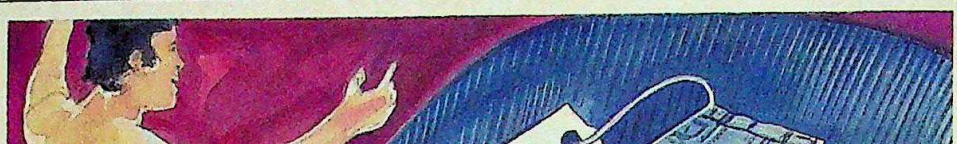
Whether V.P. Singh can win an election with this new vote bank, whether this vote bank will self-destruct because of internecine rivalries, are not the questions any more. The real issue is that a prime minister heading a minority Government has created an atmosphere in which Indian has been pitted against Indian.

Reported by HARPAL SINGH in New Delhi, FARZAND AHMED in Patna, DILIP AWASTHI in Lucknow and UDAY MAHURKAR in Ahmedabad

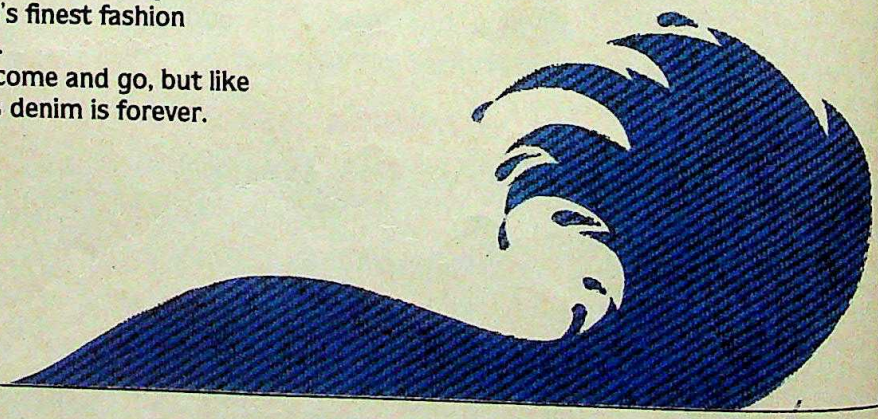
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

The people who created 'Amadeus', have caught the eye of Europe's most creative fashion designers.



* Modern Suitings who created the superfine Amadeus range of suitings are all set to bring greater glory to Indian Denim.
* Modern Suitings is now setting up a new 100% EOU Project to manufacture 7.2 million metres of quality denim for export to the world's finest fashion designers.
* Fashions come and go, but like diamonds denim is forever.



Sobhagya/171/90

Modern Suitings Limited

Regd. Office : D-22, Moti Dungari Road, Jaipur-302 004.

Be a part of the Modern Blue Wave.

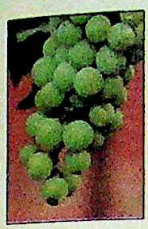
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

WINE INDUSTRY

Bubbling Over

India is making a spirited entry into the international wine market with leading French producers endorsing the product.



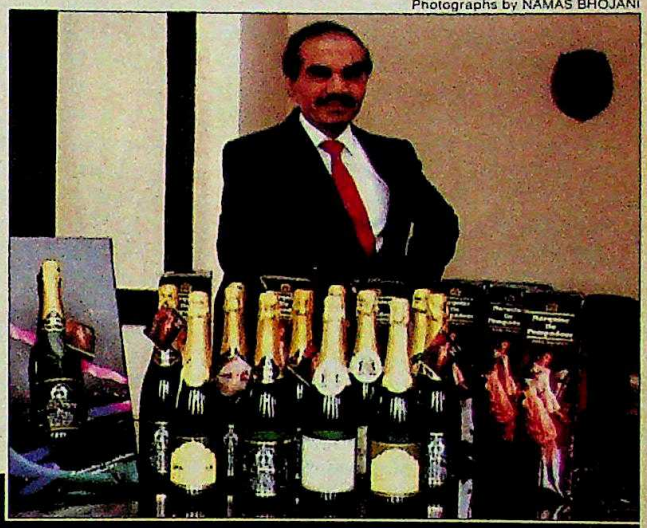
THE Rig Veda refers to it, the god Indra is known to have a weakness for it, and European visitors to the court of Mughal emperor Shah Jahan are said to have savoured it. Nevertheless, the last time an Indian wine got pride of place at an international event was at the Great Calcutta Exhibition in 1884. But now the Indian wine industry seems set for a revival with a fizz and a pop.

In July this year, the sparkling wine produced by Sham Chougule near Pune won a silver medal at London's International Wine and Spirit Competition. And in October, another bubbly made near Nasik, in the heart of rural Maharashtra, will be presented at the World Food and Wine Show in Paris. Clearly, the time has come to once again toast the produce of the vast vineyards of India.

The reappearance of good quality wines—so-called champagne or sparkling wine is made by fermenting still wine a second time—on the international scene is of very recent vintage. The deadly plant-louse *phylloxera* wiped out the subcontinent's vine-

Photographs by NAMAS BHOJANI

"The French are afraid of being wiped out from the potentially big Indian market."
SHAM CHOUGULE
Champagne India Ltd



Indage bottling plant

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

"Our sparkling wine is definitely much better than the ordinary champagnes made in France."

YVES POUZET
Indage winemaster

"Our growth has been restricted due to the lack of a wine culture in India. Now we plan to expand."

CESARE ROSSI
Joint owner, Baramati Ind

yards in 1890, and under the British the attention shifted to improving the quality of beer and whisky.

Good quality wine reappeared with the setting up of Chougule's 100 per cent-export Champagne India Ltd. It was described by *The Asian Wall Street Journal* as "the most audacious business venture under the hot Indian sun". But at its London launch in January 1986, incredulous wine critics throatily toasted "the Bombay bubbly". It put India back on the international wine map. Notes Sotheby's *World Wine Encyclopaedia:* "The technical level of production is as high as in Champagne. And the wine, sold under the Omar Khayyam label, is fine by any standards."

But critical success was not immediately followed by brisk sales. The breakthrough has come this year. Exports of the Indian champagne will more than treble over last year to 400,000 bottles. Japan is importing the bubbly, and an entry will be made into the massive US market. Says Chougule: "Now even French manufacturers are afraid of being wiped out from the Indian market which they feel is potentially very big."

As if this were not incredible enough, the first shipment of another Indian sparkling wine, Pimpane, was despatched from a village in Nasik district in August for sale in, well, the Champagne region of France.

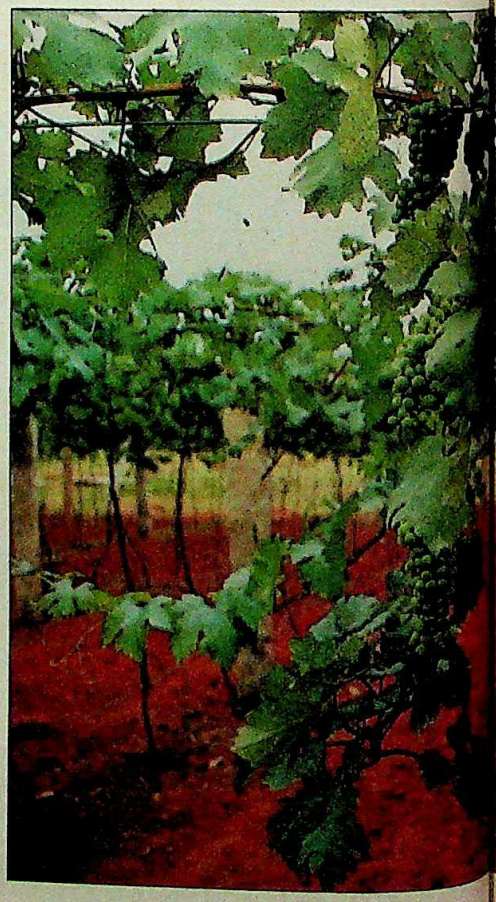
For the first time in a century, wine production is increasing in India at the same rate as hard liquor—15 per cent annually. Much of the wine is made in the unorganised sector, so reliable production figures are unavailable. But an estimated 30 lakh bottles are being consumed annually, worth approximately Rs 20 crore including excise and other duties. The sales figures of Shaw Wallace's Golconda Wines bear this out—up from 1.35 lakh bottles annually in the early '80s to 6.5 lakh bottles at the decade-end. Shaw Wallace has set up a separate division to market wines.

Plans are fermenting with other companies also. Pepsi's partner Punjab Agro has conducted a detailed study on the feasibility of making good quality wine. The Bombay-based Hindustan Export & Import Corporation (HEIC) has set up Grover Vineyards Pvt Ltd near Bangalore to produce still wines and cognac-grade brandy with French assistance. The technical advice has come from George Vesselle, mayor of Bouzy, administrator of the famous Champagne Mumm vineyards, and producer of his own Vesselle champagne. The project has been cleared by the Karnataka Government and is awaiting the final nod from New Delhi. The aim: to make 10 lakh bottles of brandy and wine every year.

BESIDES Bangalore, which has several small wineries, the wine market is burgeoning in the tourist enclave of Goa. Last year Goa produced 7.5 lakh bottles of wine. The most popular being port, which Portugal is justly famous for. The state is also the biggest market after Bombay for Chougule's champagne, marketed in India under the label Marquise de Pompadour. Goa will guzzle one lakh bottles (half of Bombay's consumption) of the bubbly this year, at the somewhat stiff price of Rs 275 per bottle.

Across the border in Baramati, the home taluka of Maharashtra's Chief Minister Sharad Pawar, is another well-known winery making Bosca wines and Cinzano vermouth. Baramati Grape Industries, jointly owned by the Italian expatriate Cesare Rossi, the mammoth UB Group and a grape growers' co-op headed by Pawar's brother, plans to step up its annual production of three lakh bottles.

Though men like Rossi played a role in spreading wine consciousness in India, it is 53-year-old Chougule who has brought sparkle to India's wine industry. Introduced to champagne and good wines by French associates while working on a civil contract in the Gulf, he decided to produce it in India. After persisting for years, a major French company, Piper-Heidsieck, agreed to



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

"In two years after we reach full capacity, I want to sell excellent still wine at the price of special chai."

MADHAVRAO MORAY
Chairman, Pimpane

provide technical assistance, and signed a five-year contract in 1984. A 100-acre site at Narayangaon, near Pune, was selected for planting special varieties of French grapes like Chardonnay, Uni Blanc and Pinot Noir. The area's flourishing vineyards, already producing good quality Thompson Seedless table grapes, were also roped in.

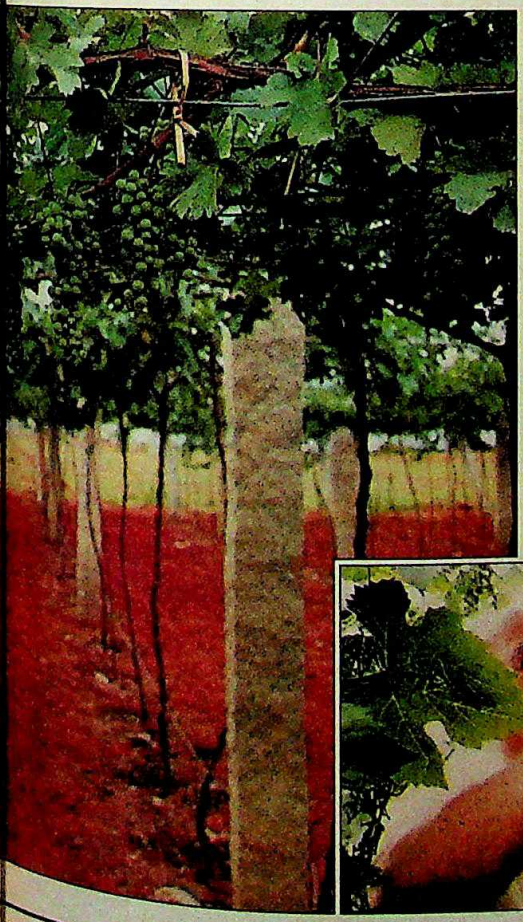
All the equipment for the Rs 7-crore, 7.5 lakh bottle Champagne India plant had to be imported, as also the special yeast from France for the second fermentation (which produces natural carbon dioxide) and corks from Spain and Portugal. The first crushing was done in January 1984, the wine prepared under the supervision of a French winemaster, and the first bottles exported two years later. It became an immediate hit.

EVEN as Chougule got permission to sell a quarter of his produce in India, he set up another winery, Indage Ltd, in 1988, exclusively for the Indian market, replicating the entire equipment indigenously. This Rs 5-crore, 7.5 lakh bottle winery began introducing its Pompadour champagne in major cities from May '89, and hopes to sell 3.5 lakh bottles of the bubbly this year. Chougule also brought in French winemaster Yves Pouzet, formerly working with champagne giant Moet et Chandon, to supervise his wineries. Says a confident Pouzet: "Our sparkling wine is much better than ordinary French champagne. Of course, the best of the best are better."

Chougule's success at producing a good sparkling wine has brought other kinds of attention. The Institut National des Appelations d'Origine des Vine et des Eaux-de-Vins, a French wine industry watchdog, along with two wine companies, filed a case in the Delhi High Court last year alleging that Champagne India had infringed their trademark by using the label 'champagne' and other exclusive terms like 'methode champenoise'.

Interestingly, one of the companies involved in the Delhi case is none other than Charbaut & Fils, which signed its own agreement with Pimpane two years ago. Pimpane's birth was under extraordinary circumstances. A prosperous farmer and Shetkari Sangathana leader Madhavrao Moray felt insulted when a visiting Frenchman told him six years ago that the famous table grapes of Pimpalgaon, near Nasik, were not good enough for making wine. Moray wrote to 200 wine companies all over the world seeking assistance. Rene Chabraut showed up in March '87, and decided to back Moray. Advice and equipment followed.

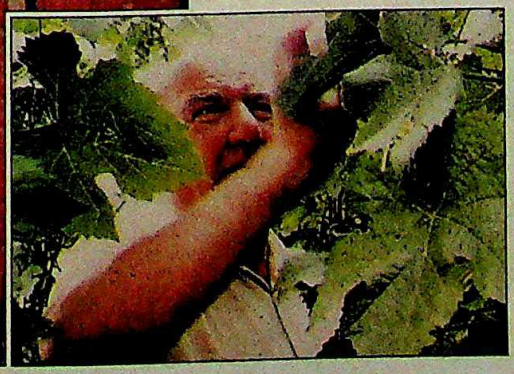
Thanks to pioneers like Chougule and Moray, the wine industry crossed an important threshold in the '80s, demonstrating that good quality wines can be made from the produce of Indian vineyards. With growing demand, fresh investments and improved know-how, Indian wineries promise to finally come into their own in the '90s, exactly a century after they were wiped out by a plant-louse. —M. RAHMAN



"The Pimpane vine is a good wine—but still a little too young. One day it will definitely be a very good sparkling wine."

GEORGE VESSELLE
Producer, Vesselle Champagne

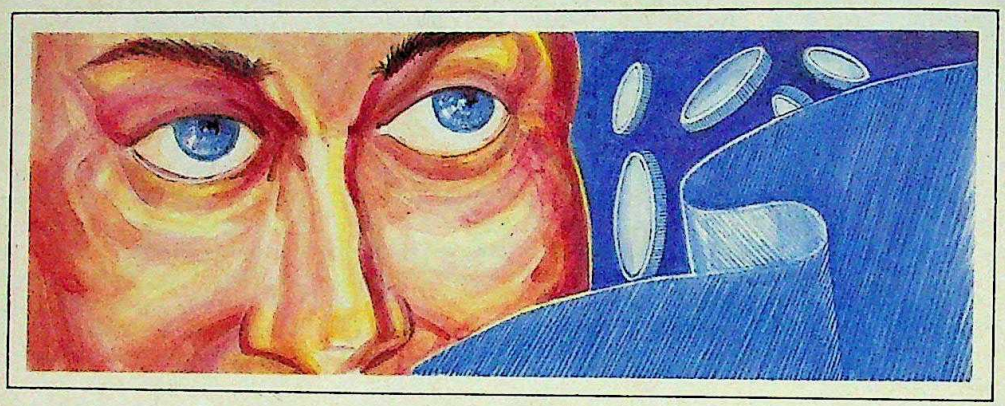
A vineyard in Nasik



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

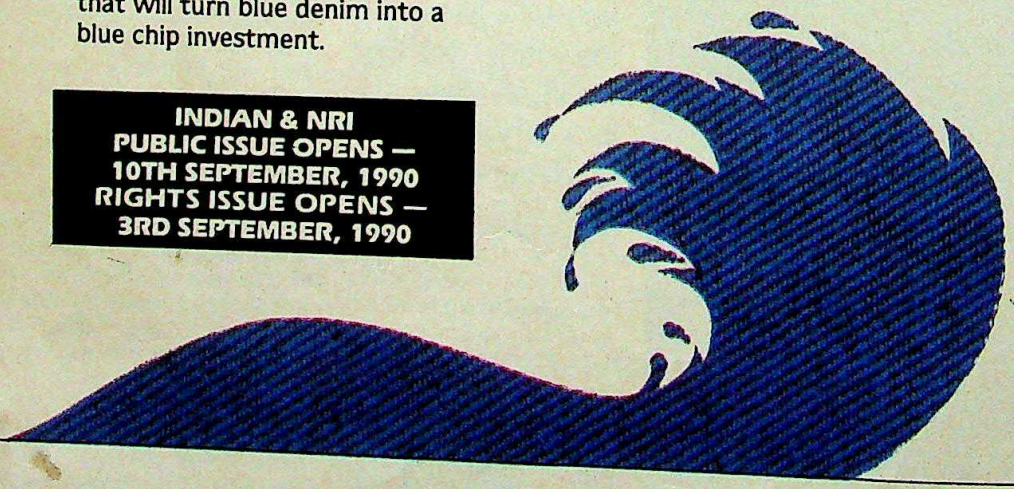
The blue eyed boys of the textile world are all set to turn blue denim into blue chip investments.



* Denim.
  Loved the world over. From kids to grandparents. From the factory worker to the filmstar. A fabric that for over 200 years has remained the No. 1 favourite. Fashions come and go, but like diamonds Denim is forever.
* An 'all win' 100% EOU project that will turn blue denim into a blue chip investment.

Issue of 82 lac 14% Fully Convertible Debentures of Rs. 44/- each for cash at par aggregating Rs. 36.08 crores.

INDIAN & NRI PUBLIC ISSUE OPENS — 10TH SEPTEMBER, 1990
RIGHTS ISSUE OPENS — 3RD SEPTEMBER, 1990



Sobhagya/170/90

Lead Managers to the Issue

The Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Limited
Merchant Banking Division
Tower II Level 6, Jeevan Bharti, 124 Connaught Place, New Delhi-110 001

SBI Capital Markets Limited
SBI CAPITAL MARKETS LTD.
202 Maker Towers 'E' 20th Floor, Cuffe Parade Bombay 400 005

Managers to the Issue

ANZ Grindlays Bank
Merchant Banking Division
H-Block, Connaught Circus, New Delhi-110 001.

CANBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LTD.
Atlanta, Nariman Point, Bombay

Modern Suitings Limited
Regd. Office : D-22, Moti Dungari Road, Jaipur-302 004.

Be a part of the Modern Blue Wave.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

OILY MESS

THE oil blockade by students in Assam is going to cost the exchequer dear. The direct loss is likely to be about Rs 100 crore. The loss in crude output will be around Rs 50 crore while the shutting down of the refineries at Barauni and Bongaigaon will result in a production loss of around Rs 45 crore. Then come the indirect losses. The abandoning of the construction of a loop pipeline in the state two months ago will result in cost over-runs. Then the decision to expand Barauni's capacity has been kept in abeyance for over 10 months since the students are apprehensive of oil moving out of Assam—even though the Centre has promised it won't. Shortages of petroleum products in the east and north-east are expected.

LIQUID PLANS

FOLLOWING the test launch of its dishwashing detergent, Vim Liquid, in Bangalore, the country's largest multinational Hindustan Lever will soon be marketing the new product in the four southern states of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. The liquid detergent concentrate, which can also be used to clean floors and tiles, will be sold in bright yellow polythene containers and will be priced at around Re 1 per kg higher than its rival brand Teepol. The all-India market for dishwashing detergents, both powders and liquids, is currently estimated at Rs 150 crore a year. In volume terms, the liquid cleaners market is around 1,200 tonnes. Lever is clearly hoping that the market will soon be awash with its liquid detergent.

HIGH SPIRITS

THE Rs 344-crore Mohan Meakin group, having successfully stemmed a take-over bid by competitor Jagatjit Industries, is drawing up ambitious plans. The group currently possesses one lakh barrels of matured spirit at its distilleries in Lucknow, Kasauli and other places which is more than 45 years old. This spirit will be converted into a high-priced product which is expected to be initially launched in Bombay and Calcutta towards the end of this year. Meanwhile, the group intends investing some Rs 28 crore in a glass bottles manufacturing factory in Pondicherry. Also a Rs 15-crore brewery is to come up in Karnataka to take on the UB (United Breweries) group on its home turf. Besides an additional Rs 17 crore will be spent on modernising the Meakin group's existing distilleries. That's not all. The group also hopes to get into the instant processed foods business in the not-too-distant future.

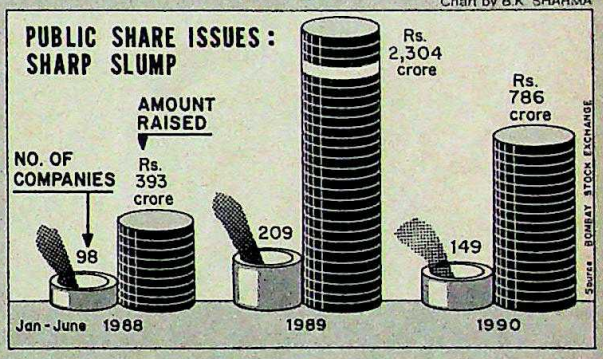
CATCHING DEFAULTERS

SENIOR officials of the Reserve Bank of India are seriously toying with the idea of setting up a separate tribunal to check the rising incidence of defaults by banks. At present, banks invariably go to court when they are unable to recover their dues from individual as well as corporate customers. The disputes then drag on for many years. Thus crores of rupees get blocked. The proposed tribunal will conduct hearings on all cases of arrears and payment defaults. Further, it will attempt to settle disputes within a specific time-frame. A note on the subject drafted by the RBI is believed to be circulating in the Ministry of Finance. Will North Block give the green signal? The RBI is waiting anxiously.

PUBLIC APATHY

THOUGH India's capital markets are in an upbeat mood, blissfully unaffected by adverse political developments inside the country and in the outside world, the market for public issues has slumped sharply. According to figures recently released by the Bombay Stock Exchange, during the first six months of the current year,

Chart by B.K. SHARMA



the total amount raised through public share issues aggregated Rs 786 crore which is just about one-third the figure for the corresponding period last year. Clearly, companies have not perceived the economic and political environment to be particularly conducive to raising fresh capital from the country's stock-markets even if the secondary markets (for existing shares) have thrived.

MAKING A MATCH

THE recent decision of the foreign principals of the country's largest match manufacturer WIMCO (formerly Western India Match Company) to divest its holdings in the company in favour of the relatively unknown Rs 40-crore Flex Packaging group headed by Ashok Chaturvedi, lit a big spark in the industry. Chaturvedi pipped a host of big business houses, including the Thapars and the Modis, to the finishing line. It is now reliably learnt that the Flex group and its NRI associates will be coughing up a sum of around Rs 8 crore for their 39-per cent stake in WIMCO. After official clearance, Chaturvedi—who is currently a director—will be reconstituting WIMCO's board, but not its management. What is not so well known is the fact that Chaturvedi's rise in the world of business has been spurred by the support he has received from *paan masala* boss M.M. Kothari. Will Kothari also chip in to assist WIMCO in marketing its products? No, says Chaturvedi. But observers are speculating whether the two groups will act in concert to synergise their marketing strategies.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

My car moves on petrol. My engine runs on GMO."

Today's new breed of engines demand a lot more from engine oils. Petsil GMO has the highest performance rating amongst engine oils in the country. Don't risk your car to an ordinary engine oil. Insist on Petsil GMO.

Available in convenient packs of 5, 2.5 and 1 ltr., at Petrosil's stockists and leading auto spares dealers.

For further information, contact: Apeejay House, 3, Dinsha Wacha Road, Bombay 400 020. Tel: 220818.

Petrosil Oil Co. Ltd.
Associates of Gulf Oil International Co. U.S.A

Gulf **World's First Choice. Make it yours.**

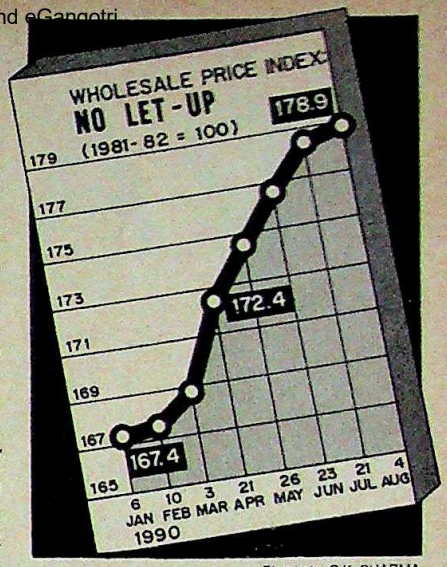
CC-0. In Public Domain. Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

INFLATION

The Politics of Prices

Government efforts to check price rise unsuccessful



Charts by B.K. SHARMA

INFLATION is the one economic issue which most easily translates itself into political slogans. Not high budget deficits. Or increased borrowings at home and abroad. Thus, an important plank of Indira Gandhi's end-'79 election strategy was the price of onions. More recently, the National Front was able to win public sympathy by emphasising the high price of sugar in its poll campaign.

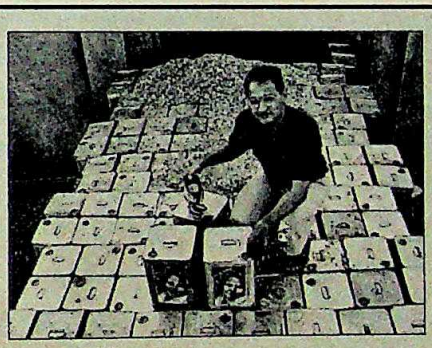
Nobody asks what proportion of a family's budget is spent on sugar or for that matter on onions. The truth is even a marginal increase in the price of any article of mass consumption erodes the real incomes of the majority of Indians. Not the most affluent sections who actually gain as a result of inflation because their incomes and profits go up relatively faster than the general price level. Or the poorest who never had anything much anyway. But the middle classes who have to bear the real brunt of inflation.

So if last fortnight the Government exulted over the fact that a point-to-point comparison of the movement of the official wholesale price index (WPI) indicated that the annual rate of inflation came down from 9 per cent on June 30 to 7.8 per cent on August 4, it was small consolation for millions of households. There is no evidence to suggest that the prices of most articles of common use have gone up faster over the last nine months than over the past few years. There are, of course, some exceptions, notably edible oils, fruit and vegetables, coffee and cement.

And these exceptions make all the difference. To households as well as political parties. Thus, the Congress(I) has been organising rallies

EDIBLE OIL

New Spurt



EARLY last year, the Government asked the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) to conduct market intervention operations (MIO) to stabilise edible oil prices and also ensure remunerative returns to oilseed growers. While the second objective has been fulfilled, the first has not. Prices have shot up.

In Bombay, groundnut oil prices peaked at Rs 32 a kg in mid-August before easing a bit. The NDDB blames speculators for the spurt and to justify its viewpoint, it recently issued a series of advertisements to explain the 'myths' and 'realities' of the edible oils scenario.

But the root of the problem is the shortfall in oilseeds output. Compounding matters have been the informal ban on movement of oil outside Gujarat which produces the bulk of the country's oilseeds—the Gujarat Government denies there is any such ban—and NDDB's low stock level, currently around 50,000 tonnes. The gap between demand and supply during the current oil year (ending October) is estimated at around 8 lakh tonnes. Till end-July, some 3.4 lakh tonnes had been imported. More imports are on the cards to prevent prices from flaring up during the festive season when demand traditionally peaks.

Edible oil prices have gone up by 20 per cent between March and July

Meanwhile, the NDDB has been accused of acting like "just another profiteering middleman". Last year, the board earned gross profits of Rs 16.8 crore from its imported edible oil operations. This year, its sales of imported palmolein should earn it profits of around Rs 30 crore. The board has, however, set off part of the losses it has incurred on selling oil in tetra-packs (the Dhara scheme) against these profits and till March 31, credited a bit under Rs 4 crore to a market intervention fund. Once this fund accumulates Rs 30 crore, the rest of NDDB's profits from its edible oil operations will be given to the Government.

It is also felt that NDDB should not be selling palmolein to private packers such as the Godrej group at prices of over Rs 26,000 per tonne and should instead sell it directly to consumers. Board Chairman V. Kurien feels that this is "an easy way out". Pampered urban consumers have got used to buying cheap imported oil and should put up with some hardship so that farmers get better prices, he argues.

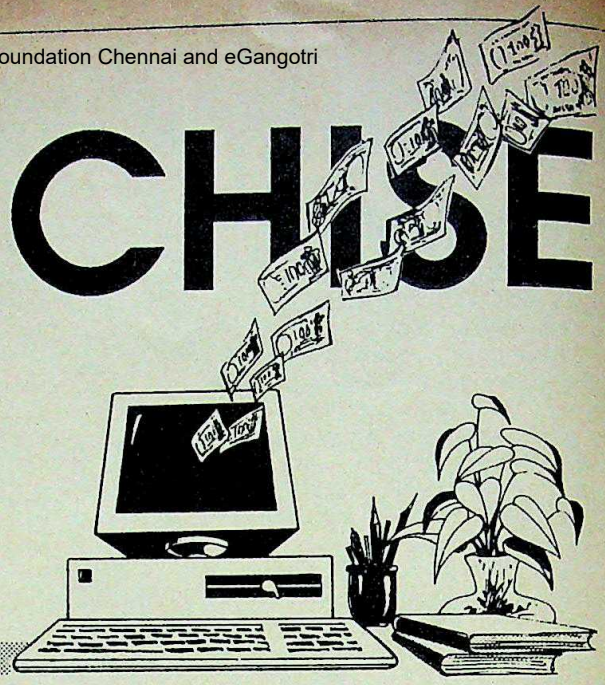
Kurien feels that a year and a half is too short to measure the success of NDDB's edible oil operations. He says that the board's plans to sell edible oil in 200 ml tetra-packs have been delayed on account of the country's weights and measures rules which state that edible oil can be sold only by weight and not volume. He is, however, confident that India will become self-sufficient in edible oils in the next seven years. Till then, consumers will presumably have to live with high prices. Or cut intake.

—PARANJOY GUHA THAKURTA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

FRANCHISE



DID ANYONE EVER SHOW YOU HOW TO MAKE Rs. 30 LACS A YEAR ?

We show you how, while offering a unique guarantee of a minimum return on investment.

Although our country has succeeded in achieving rapid computerisation, we are seriously lacking software professionals. There are a no. of computer education centres. However, most of them have almost identical and routine computer courses.

ISCT was established to overcome this shortcoming. From day one there has been an overwhelming response to the advanced training offered by ISCT. With a current workforce of over a 100 personnel working to create a high standard of computer education, ISCT offers specialisation in highly advanced areas besides covering all the basic subjects.

With over 1000 students training presently in 4 centres that sprawl over 8000 Sq. Ft. of training space, ISCT has a projected turnover of over Rs. 1.5 Crore in the current financial year.

Apart from being financially stable an ideal franchisee should essentially be able to manage the business personally (Prior knowledge of computers is not a pre-requisite). He should be receptive and have a professional outlook.

A franchisee should necessarily have or obtain premises in a central part of the City/Town, measuring over 1500 Sq. Ft.

Come, join hands with a reputed computer company having a pre-proven formula of success.

FRANCHISE SCHEME HIGHLIGHTS :

- A Unique guarantee of minimum returns on investment.
- Initial Training Covering all aspects of business.
- Complete professional back-up services ranging from marketing to shop fitting.
- Assistance in initial recruitment & training of staff.
- Regular promotion & advertising support.
- Regular monitoring of centre's performance to maintain standards & profitability.

Write with all relevant details like size of existing business, manpower, finance resource and any other details you feel we should know.
To : The Franchise Manager

ISCT

International School of Computer Technology
Unit of Futuristic Computer Systems Pvt. Ltd.
Affiliated to London School of Data Processing (UK)
Regd. Office : 1, 'Pushpa Varkha', Main S.V. Road, Khar (W), Bombay-400 052. Tel. : 540860, 6464476.

CENTRES AT ● BOMBAY ● DELHI ● BANGALORE

WHERE SPECIALIZATION SPELLS SUCCESS

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

CEMENT

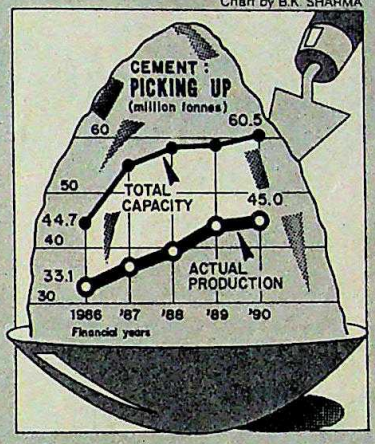
Upward Move

AFTER three years of falling profits, poor capacity utilisation and a glut in the market, things are looking up for the cement industry. But consumers are most unhappy. Reason: retail prices have skyrocketed. While the industry has been accused of forming a cartel to inflate prices to levels far higher than warranted, industry spokesmen deny the charge. In late-April, the Government threatened to reintroduce controls unless prices were rolled back. For a while prices eased. Then again they started going up.

Says A.L. Kapur, chief executive of the Cement Manufacturers Association (CMA): "The notion that 95-odd manufacturers are working to rig prices is a misconception." Adds Narottam Sekhsaria, managing director, Gujarat Ambuja Cement: "Prices of iron and steel have gone up much more than cement, yet we are being blamed." The CMA claims that the average selling price of a 50 kg cement bag in the five metros rose from Rs 80 to Rs 85 between April 1989 and April 1990. But government officials point out that in cement-scarce regions of the east, north-east and north, prices range from Rs 96 to Rs 110 a bag.

One reason for high prices is the rise in transport costs. "Freight is a problem—it is expensive to move cement from one end of the country to another," observes M. Karnani, general manager of Larsen & Toubro's cement marketing division. But this only partially explains the phenomenon especially during the monsoon season when demand slackens. The industry blames the Government for the rise in prices.

Chart by B.K. SHARMA



After price controls on cement were lifted in March 1989, government departments—which are major buyers—curtailed purchases on account of high stocks. Then, according to the industry, they re-entered the market in December when demand traditionally peaks. And prices zoomed. Still, manufacturers find it difficult to explain why prices spiralled to above Rs 100 a bag when units in Andhra Pradesh were complaining about a glut.

Curiously, some cement manufacturers, based in the surplus southern region, want a return of price controls. "Cement-scarce regions will then get the product at a reasonable price," says a producer from Andhra Pradesh. But the CMA opposes such a step as it would signify a return of the "inspector raj". Clearly, there is no unanimity about how cement prices can be controlled, if not brought down.

—S.N. VASUKI with bureau reports

to protest against high prices. Even the Government's supporters—the Left and the BJP—have spared no effort to raise banners of revolt against its failure to control prices.

Cement prices have shot up from around Rs 80 a bag early this year to more than Rs 90 a bag in many parts of the country. And edible oil prices have gone up by nearly 20 per cent between March and end-July *(see boxes)*. According to the WPI, the prices of fruit and vegetables have jumped by over 25 per cent between end-March and end-July against a rise of 17.4 per cent in the corresponding period last year. Coffee prices have shot up by nearly 30 per cent in this period whereas last year they came down by 5.4 per cent. These figures, if anything, tend to underestimate the actual extent of inflation at the retail level.

To the Government's credit, milk prices have not gone up much. Nor have sugar prices which flared up last year. Tea prices went up by less than 4 per cent in this period against over 20 per cent last year.

This Government, like the previous ones, blames hoarders and speculators for much of the rise in prices. In a series of well-publicised moves, the Income Tax Department raided the premises of edible oil traders last fortnight. The stated purpose was to dehoard stocks and unearth hidden wealth. But this has not helped bring down prices.

IF the present rulers have actually succeeded in keeping inflation under check as is being claimed, why then is just about everybody cribbing? Says Finance Minister Madhu Dandavate: "If I was not in power even I would be agitating." He believes it is natural for all conscious citizens to keep the pressure on the Government to control prices, even though he feels that prices haven't gone up very much. Dandavate claims there is more resentment in urban areas than in villages where farmers are receiving more remunerative prices for their crops and have welcomed the Government's decision to write off loans.

Still, not everyone agrees with the Government's contention that the price rise has been modest. "I'm worried because the inflation is unevenly distributed: prices of essential commodities have gone up relatively more which is affecting the common man," says Ashok Mitra, former West Bengal finance minister. He adds that the foreign exchange cushion which could have been used to import essential items no longer exists. Further, the Government will not be able to reduce subsidies on food and fertiliser since procurement prices of farm produce have been increased. Nor does it seem likely that the defence budget will be curtailed. All these factors, Mitra feels, will make it rather difficult for the Government to control inflation.

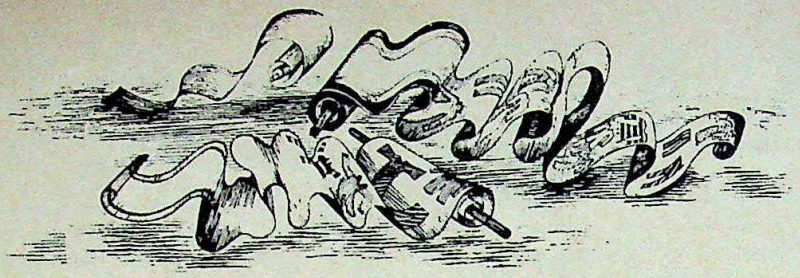
Officials attribute much of the price rise to excess money supply. Last year, liquidity in the system went up by nearly 20 per cent, the highest in the last 12 years. But it is clear that the Government can do only so much and no more to contain prices.

In some ways, the country has been fortunate in having a third successive favourable monsoon which has muted the rise in agricultural prices. But the Government's attempts to reduce the budget deficit may get thwarted if the oil import bill balloons. Then it will have no alternative but to raise fuel prices again which, in turn, will lead to a fresh round of price hikes. In which case, it will be back to square one. And the spectre of double-digit inflation will loom large.

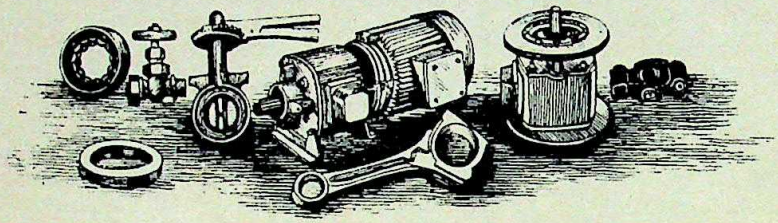
—PARANJOY GUHA THAKURTA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

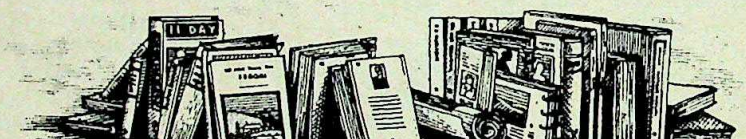
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



IN THE LAST 21 YEARS, WE'VE DELIVERED MILES OF GARMENT SAMPLES.



TENS OF THOUSANDS OF SPARE PARTS OF EVERY TYPE AND SIZE.



HUNDREDS OF TONS OF PRINTED LITERATURE.

AND MILLIONS OF OTHER CONSIGNMENTS.

WHATEVER GAVE YOU THE IMPRESSION WE ONLY CARRY DOCUMENTS?

RAKA:3150:A:90

21 years ago, we pioneered the air express industry. Since then, we've been carrying shipments of all types, shapes, sizes and weight. From the ordinary — such as garments, leather samples and printed literature, to the unusual — such as blood samples and even the occasional pregnant cow. Hundreds of thousands of consignments, door-to-door, everyday. And always, through one network, with one service, and one all-inclusive invoice. The next time you have a shipment to send, why not call us for an immediate pick-up?

We are listed in the Yellow Pages/Telephone Directories.

DHL WORLDWIDE EXPRESS®

DHL. THE COURIER DIVISION OF AIRFREIGHT LIMITED.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

SOFT DRINKS

Fighting for the Fizz

Cola war spills out on the streets

WHEN the maker of the world's most popular soft drink comes to India after more than five years of acrimonious battle it means business. And when it takes on a street-smart businessman who has opposed its entry tooth and nail, you might well sit back and look more closely at what the fizz is all about.

The company: Pepsi Foods. The street fighter: Parle boss Ramesh Chauhan. The battleground: an over Rs 800 crore market.

Last fortnight the cola war took yet another twist when Pepsi launched its television advertisement on the national network—two months after it launched its products selectively in Rajasthan, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and the south. Pepsi is busy chalking out aggressive marketing strategies to take its competitors head-on. Parle is taking on the challenge by churning out new products, increasing incentives to dealers and upping its media blitz. Says Pepsi Chairman Ramesh Vanghal: "We don't underestimate Parle. He is a giant. We will give them tough competition."

Even as cola is bubbling out of Lehar Pepsi and Thumps Up bottles the battle is spilling out on the streets. Allegations are flying thick and fast that goondas are defacing Pepsi hoardings, hired hoodlums are breaking bottles and even adulterating the product to give it a bad name. Retorts Ramesh Chauhan: "They are themselves adulterating their bottles in desperation. Pepsi will not be able to do anything worthwhile. A foreign brand will not work."

Yet there is no denying that Pepsi is giving Parle a tough fight—if the figures are any indication *(see chart)*. Even though it is too early to predict whether the one-time Pepsi buyer will become an addict soon. According to a study by Bombay-based market research agency Praxis about 91 per cent of the consumers in Bangalore and Jaipur tried Pepsi once but only 10 per cent tried it for a second time and a mere 4 per cent the third time.

In Jaipur, Pepsi has snatched 30 per cent of the market even though it has been able to sell its wares to only 70 per cent of retail outlets. Says S.K. Gupta, vice-president of Dhillon Kool Drinks and Beverages Ltd, Pepsi's bottler in Punjab: "In Punjab Pepsi alone outsold all flavours of its largest competitor by two to one."

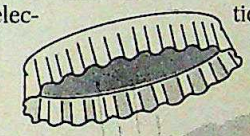
Yet Pepsi is treading cautiously in a competitive market. Says Ravi Dhariwal, vice-president of the company: "We would be happy with a 3-per cent market share this year. We plan to build our shares slowly. It is too early to be anywhere remotely near Parle." Pepsi is now busy finalising its plans for an October launch in major markets like Delhi, Bombay and Calcutta which constitute 40 per cent of the country's soft drinks market. By the year end they plan to be all over the country. Vanghal adds: "We are planning to come out with Indian flavours and with plastic bottles, an orange flavoured drink too and even cans."

Yet that does not mean that everything is hunky-dory for Pepsi. It is setting up merely 10 bottling plants which is no match for Parle's 60. Due to a nine-month delay in getting clearance, Pepsi was forced to enter the market only by end-May—when the peak soft drinks season (nearly 70 per cent of soft drink sales are between March and June) was about to be over. According to a conservative estimate the company has already lost Rs 8 crore, as a result of the delay, on an investment of Rs 50 crore.

That obviously bothers Pepsi. However, it is now trying to overcome bottlenecks by attacking the market. Asserts Ravi Dhariwal: "Our first task was to get people to try a new product in an innovative way, secondly to provide better services to the retailer and also build loyalty to the product." Backed, of course, by a media blitz whose budget is a closely guarded secret.

Pepsi has tried all stratagems from the marketing lexicon. Consumers were prodded to cut the newspaper advertisement on the Pepsi launch in their city and exchange it for a free bottle from any shop. The company claims the offer was a resounding success and reached as much as 25 per cent of the households in each of these cities. At least 1 lakh consumers drank Pepsi free in Madras.

In order to woo the dealer Pepsi has



CONSUMER PREFERENCES

Preference among those exposed to the Lehar Pepsi Ad, and those not exposed.

	PREFER THUMS UP		PREFER LEHAR PEPSI		DO NOT MIND EITHER	
	% BANGALORE	% KANPUR	% BANGALORE	% KANPUR	% BANGALORE	% KANPUR
SEEN THE PEPSI AD	25	49	41	39	34	11
NOT SEEN THE PEPSI AD	35	68	27	28	39	4
ALL	27	56	38	35	35	9

Study done one month after launch of Pepsi
Source: MODE

Chart by B.K. SHARMA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

introduced plastic crates instead of the wooden ones in Bangalore and is offering specially designed plastic ice-chests which will cut down the ice costs by as much as 30 per cent for the retailer. In Madras retail outlets are serviced twice daily in order to keep retailer investments on storage low. In Rajasthan, Pepsi adopted Amer village near the historical fort by painting the entire market with Pepsi hoardings and stocking the product in virtually every shop in the market.

To encourage retailers to push Pepsi in Punjab the company introduced a scheme by which a retailer would be given one crate of cola free if on being asked for a cold drink by name he would recommend Pepsi. The company sent mystery buyers to various shops to check up on this. In order to mop up margins to the retailer in Rajasthan, the company launched a refill scheme—for every crate sold, two bottles would be given free of cost—virtually giving the retailer an extra 8 per cent margin. Says N.K. Gupta, director of Jai Drinks, a Pepsi bottler in Rajasthan: "We are gearing up for the next season." The company has already spent Rs 20 lakh on hoardings in the last two months.

Parle is not sitting idle watching Pepsi bottles pop open. It plans to introduce Citra, a clear lemon drink in green bottles, within a month after a successful test launch in Madras to take on Pepsi's 7 UP. Chauhan admits: "7 UP is gaining more ground than Pepsi and now we are also entering this vacant segment of the market."

What's more, Chauhan is telling bottlers to get ready to launch the 250 ml Maha Cola and Limca Plus all over the country by the end of the year. Parle is also upping its advertising budget by 35 per cent. Pepsi's much publicised 90 seconds film, which cost the company Rs 60 lakh, is being matched by a one-minute short made by Parle with just Rs 4 lakh. Parle is also extending credit to more retailers.

Bottlers are also now taking the cue. Jaipur Bottling Company, for instance, has upped its advertising budget one and a half times as a result of the Pepsi launch in Jaipur. Says Ravi Goenka, director of the company: "We have increased our margins to the retailers from Rs 2 a crate to Rs 3." To top it all Parle is setting up a Rs 6-crore fruit processing plant. Says Chauhan: "We plan to export processed products unlike Pepsi which is only hoodwinking the public. They had promised to bring in new technology. They are instead just buying old bottling plants in India."

No doubt it is a crucial issue considering the fact that Pepsi was cleared only on the condition that 50 per cent of its turnover would come from exports and 25 per cent from soft drinks. More important, 40 per cent would be its own manufactured goods.

However it has not been able to keep its commitment to export Rs 7.5 crore worth of tomato pulp this year due to the delay in project clearance. And many suspect that Pepsi has used the export card to make a back door entry into the soft drinks market and might well earn as much as 85 per cent of its turnover from it. However Pepsi is now trying out processing of guava, apple, pear and their blends for export to the Middle East. It has also developed new branded products which it is test marketing for exports: like Era Gold, a packaged tea product, primarily with an eye to the Middle East market.

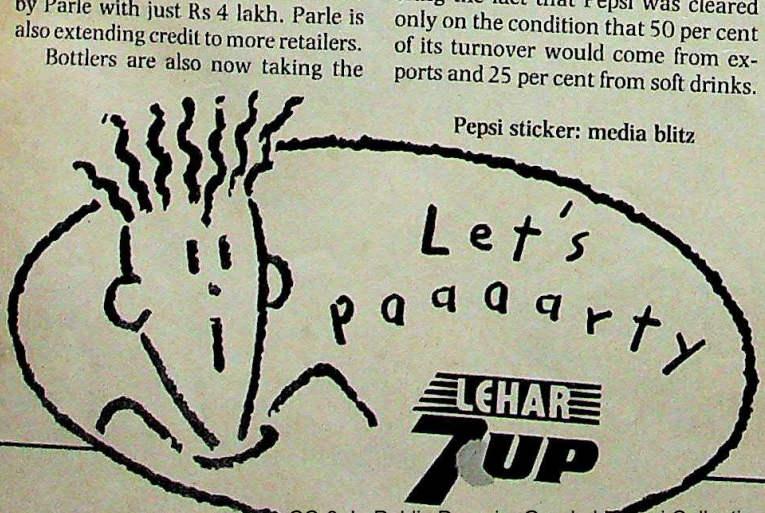
There is no denying that Pepsi has infused a bubbly enthusiasm and healthy competition into the soft drinks market which Parle ruled with an iron hand. Says Ashok Talwar an executive in Jaipur: "For the first time cola manufacturers are actually thinking of the consumer. They are giving us our money's worth."

With such a fuss being kicked up over fizz, it's the thirsty customer who is lapping up all the froth.

—SURAJEET DAS GUPTA
with bureau reports

People availing of the free drink offer on Pepsi's launching day

In Jaipur, Pepsi got 30 per cent of the market. But of the 91 per cent who tried it once, only 10 per cent tried it for the second time.



Pepsi sticker: media blitz

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

S·H·O·P·P·E·R·S· Burlingtons' P·A·R·A·D·I·S·E·

BID LONDON, NEW YORK AND HONG KONG... GOOD BYE!

DISCOVER THE NEW SHOPPERS' PARADISE WITHIN THE PAGES OF Burlingtons' HOME SHOPPING CATALOGUE

Burlingtons' HOME SHOPPING

FEATURING OVER 400 PRODUCTS!

IT'S LIKE HAVING A DEPARTMENT STORE — RIGHT IN YOUR HOME! SEE A WORLD OF NEVER-BEFORE SHOPPING CONVENIENCE AND COMFORT OPEN BEFORE YOUR EYES. EVERYTHING ON DISPLAY IS SO VERY REASONABLY PRICED. WHAT'S MORE, IT'S DELIVERED FREE TO YOUR HOME. AND YOU'RE PROMISED FULL SATISFACTION — OR YOUR MONEY BACK!

Cut around for India's first Mail-Order Catalogue — Burlingtons' Home Shopping.

S·H·O·P·P·E·R·S· Burlingtons' P·A·R·A·D·I·S·E·

☐ Please send me Burlingtons' Mail-Order Colour Catalogue for which I enclose a cheque for Rs. 30/-. (To be refunded at the time I place my first order or, if I return you the catalogue within 7 days.)

☐ I'd like more information. Send me your FREE Color Brochure.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Tel: _____

Pin Code: _____ ☑ Tick One IN2

Mail this coupon to: **Burlingtons' Home Shopping Pvt. Ltd.** A-15-16, Sector 2, Noida 201 301, U.P. Tel: 893311, 893821.

IMPRESSIONS 6673

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

For Talking. Laughing. Sh

NORTH S

100

Authen

S T Y

J • E • A

• F I T • Q U A L I T Y

W H E N J E A N S M

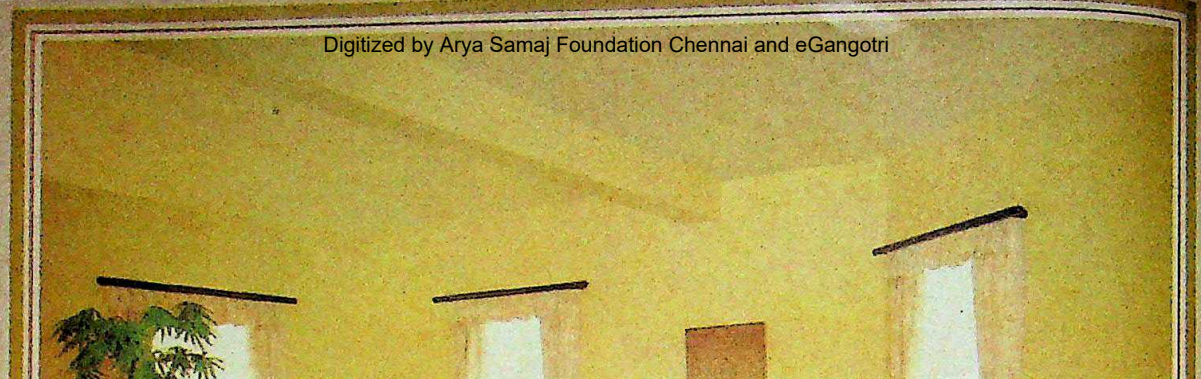
AVAILABLE AT SELECT Bata . POWERSPORTS STORES . NORTH STA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kang

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



The Silk People. He loves designer drapes. She loves daydreaming. Their walls love Luxol Silk.

Silk sheen ... silken feel

Drape your walls with Luxol Silk — the richest emulsion in the world.

BERGER Luxol Silk

LINTAS (CAL)/BP/LS/P2/2719

BERGER PAINTS

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

UNITED KINGDOM

The Asian Millionaires

Indians overwhelmingly dominate the top 50 list

IN whichever country they have set foot, Indians have displayed impressive business acumen. And if there were doubts about Indians being able to hold their own in the competitive western markets, they have now been put to rest. In the list of Britain's 50 richest Asians revealed for the first time in a league table drawn up by an authoritative British business journal, the overwhelming majority are Indians. To no one's surprise, the Hinduja brothers, Srichand, 55, and Gopichand, 50, who run a worldwide trading empire from London, have been confirmed as the richest Asians in Britain with assets estimated at £1,000 million. But other Asians, who have so far maintained a low profile, have also come into the limelight.

Philip Beresford, the editor of *Management Today*, the official journal of the British Institute of Management, which compiled the list is well known for having earlier produced a list of the 200 richest people in Britain (the Hindujas ranked 11th on that list which was headed by the Queen).

While doing his research, he was intrigued by the number of names from the Indian subcontinent creeping into this list. He then commissioned additional research to discover the names of the 50 richest Asians. With the exception of a handful of Pakistani origin and one Sri Lankan, the entrepreneurs are Indians for whom Britain has indeed proved to be a promised land. Some came directly from India, while others arrived via east Africa, mainly Kenya and Uganda.

They have overcome prejudice—often blatantly racial—to claw their way to the top of the British economy. Their contribution to the economic well-being of Britain has been remarkable as between them, they are said to be worth £2.6 billion, equivalent to 10 per cent of Britain's defence budget. Their fortunes have been calculated as the estimated value of their assets and or the value of their holdings in public or private companies at the beginning of 1990.

Their life-style is typical of the super-rich. They jet around the world first-class, use the Concorde like most people use buses, live in mansions in exclusive London suburbs, send their children to the most expensive public schools, own a fleet of limousines with personalised number plates, and splurge on family weddings.

Gopichand and Srichand Hinduja: the leaders

To no one's surprise the Hinduja brothers have been confirmed as the richest Asians in Britain.

The secret of success has been a combination of business acumen, hard work, family unity and the ability to spot gaps in the market. The policies of Margaret Thatcher's Conservative Government, with its low taxation and encouragement to individual enterprise, have suited these Asians well.

The areas where they have done well are trading in commodities, food retailing, cash and carry, property, hotels, textiles and news agents. Some are breaking into electronics, engineering and manufacturing.

The low profile Sindhi rich made their money in west Africa, especially Nigeria, but now use London as their base. Some non-resident Indians, notably Vijay Mallya (fourth on the list) and Rajan Pillai (34th) find it convenient to operate from London. Those who arrived from Uganda after being expelled in 1972 by former president Idi Amin came with very little money but are now among the wealthiest. A typical example is Nazmu Virani, third on the list.

When he arrived as a 24-year-old refugee 18 years ago, he was very nearly deported back to Africa. Today, as chairman of a leisure and property group, Virani hobnobs with Prince Charles and is driven around London in his gleaming Rolls Royce. Virani's grandfather, an Ismaili, went to east Africa from Porbander decades ago.

Rashmi Thakrar, another Indian from Uganda, has made his money from rice. He arrived in Britain as part of the Ugandan Asian influx, noticed that rice and curry were becoming popular among Britons. Today, Thakrar (36th) has cornered 52 per cent of the retail rice market in Britain. He imports fine Basmati quality rice and has a private dock and mill.

Coming as a student from India, Nat Puri, studied engineering and decided it would be more satisfying running his own business. His Melton Medes group is a rising industrial power. Puri (20th) made an unsuccessful bid last year to buy the giant Rover Car Group for £150 million.

Another arrival from India, Roy Sandhu, a Sikh, is a prominent property developer in London (35th) who has built and named a square in the east end of the city after himself. Just the sort of thing that viceroys were fond of doing when they ruled India.

The empires of the leading 50 are increasingly being developed by their British educated offspring. Akash and Ambar, the Harrow educated twin sons of Swraj Paul—who heads the Caparo Steel Group (16th)—for instance, are playing increasingly important roles in expanding the house their father built.

There are many stories of individual enterprise. The Shah brothers—Arun, Nitin and Milan—came from Kenya, worked in market stalls during the day and petrol garages at night. Today, their jeans business, under the Pepe label, has outlets worldwide. And the brothers are 21st on the list.

There are just a few Pakistanis on

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

the list including cash-and-carry giants Anwar Pervez (15th) who worked as a bus conductor when he arrived, Yaqub Ali (who came with less than £5), Ashraf Adamjee, a trader in steel and chemicals, and Shami Ahmed, who has a clothing empire. The lone Sri Lankan is Lakhi Liyanage, who has a wood products business.

With trade barriers due to be dismantled in Europe after 1992, the Asian businessmen are set to expand their empires. According to Beresford, the West Germans may not have things all their own way in the new Europe. Britain still has a chance, thanks to the Asian. He predicts: "The Asians could be the shock troops in taking on the Germans."

The wealth of the Asians millionaires in Britain is revealed in an unguarded remark by Naresh Patel (39th), who owns a film processing company and a chain of supermarkets. Asked which car he owned, he replied: "You can put me down under Mercedes." He thought for a moment and said: "Or a Rolls Royce." Some more pondering, and he added: "Or a Ferrari." —AMIT ROY in London

ROLL OF HONOUR

A list of the top 50 families with their estimated assets as computed by Management Today *of London:*

1. Srichand and Gopichand Hinduja (£1,000 million). The controversial brothers run a global trading empire dealing in vehicles, steel, non-ferrous metals, fertilisers, power-stations, crude oil and petroleum products.

2. Rasik Rabheru (£150 m). Owns 11 luxury country hotels of the Park Hotel Group.

3. Nazmu Virani (£110 m). The chairman of Control Securities owns breweries, 23 hotels and 770 pubs.

4. Vijay Mallya (£100 m). Chairman of the UBI group involved in brewing, pharmaceuticals and foodstuffs. ▶

5. Lakshmi Shivdasani (£100 m). The matriarch of a Sindhi family does business in seafood processing in Britain, owns an aluminium plant in Nigeria, vineyards in France and a finance house in Geneva.

6. Jasminder Singh (£90 m). Heads the Edwardian hotel chain.

7. Charanjit and Satinder Vohra (£76 m). The brothers own the Barova Hotel Group.

8. Damodar Chanrai (£60 m). Chanrai and three of his brothers have international interests in textiles, real estate, steel and glass.

9. Manubhai Madhvani (£55 m). Has international interests in sugar, glass and steel.

10. Nurdin Nanji (£55 m). Operates as an international consultant with interests in property and shipping.

11. Ratilal Chandaria (£50 m). Family has interests in steel, chemicals and plastics in 40 countries, has been called the "Rockefellers of Africa."

12. Bhushan Bharadwaj (£50 m). His interests in textiles span the African continent.

13. Nurdin Jivraj (£50 m). Owns hotels in the Buckingham International group.

14. Girish Patel (£50 m). Commodity trader. Deals in palm oil, cocoa, rubber and tin. Building a £12-million Asian shopping complex in west London.

15. Anwar Pervez (£50 m). A Pakistani, he is Britain's cash-and-carry king. He runs the Bestway chain. ▶

16. Swraj Paul (£45 m). Heads the Caparo Steel empire.

17. Gulshan Bhatia (£35 m). A widow, aged 57, she owns the Great Western Royal Hotel at Paddington station.

18. Chatwani brothers (£30 m). Three brothers, Satish, Rushmie and Jay, own middle ranking hotels.

19. Pradyuman Rajeswar Patel (£30 m). Owns Letap Pharmaceuticals, Regent Laboratories and a taxi company.

20. Nat Puri (£30 m). Heads the Nottingham-based Melton Medes group.

21. Shah brothers (£30 m). Three brothers, Arun, Nitin and Milan, own the Pepe jeans empire.

22. Shami Ahmed (£25 m). Just 27, he intends turning Manchester into "the new Milan" with his Joe Bloggs jeans.

23. Raj Kumar Bagri (£25 m). Owns Minmetco, a private metal company. Vice-chairman, London Metal Exchange.

24. Murli Chellaram (£25 m). Sindhi family with interests in trading and manufacturing in Nigeria.

25. Shiraz Kassam (£25 m). Owner of the Baron hotel group.

26. Gulu Lalvani (£25 m). Came as a student, then began selling electronics goods. Recently bought Dialatron, one of Britain's largest suppliers of telephones. ▶

27. Anant Shah (£25 m). Chief of the Meghraj Bank.

28. Ashraf Adamjee (£20 m). Sells British steel and chemical products to the Indian subcontinent.

29. Yaqub Ali (£20 m). Owns Scotland's largest cash-and-carry chain.

30. Ramesh Dewan (£20 m). Has built 200 factories in England.

31. Kumar brothers (£20 m). Three brothers, based in Manchester, wholesalers of fashion goods.

32. Charles Patel (£20 m). Owns the Capital Newsagent chain.

33. Dadu Patel (£20 m). Owns an industrial estate near Heathrow, a cash-and-carry chain, and shares in the St. James Court Hotel near Buckingham Palace.

34. Rajan Pillai (£20 m). Has business interests mainly in Asia but he finds it convenient to operate from London. ▶

35. Roy Sandhu (£20 m). Moved from textiles to property development in London's Dockland.

36. Rashmi Thakrar (£20 m). Has 52 per cent of Britan's retail rice market as owner of the Tilda rice company.

37. Vinod Vadera (£20 m). Runs estates and a plastic plant in India.

38. Chatru Wadhwani (£20 m). Britian based, but owns textile mills in Nigeria.

39. Naresh Patel (£18 m). Owns the Europa supermarket chain and Colorama, a film-processing company.

40. Sutterwalla brothers (£18 m). Five brothers run T.R. Sutterwalla & Sons, which sells spices and foods.

41. Prem Anand (£15 m). Owns Wembley-based Marvel Fair which sells uniforms to armies in Africa.

42. Jitania Brothers (£15 m). Four brothers own Lornamead, a manufacturer of beauty products.

43. Hasso Melwani (£15 m). Heads a group with textile interests in Nigeria.

44. Rashid Tayub (£15 m). Owns Nottingham-based Crown Crest cash-and-carry operation in the Midlands.

45. Lakhi Liyanage (£14 m). Chairman of the Castel group which has interests in wood products.

46. Amritlal and Mansukh Radia (£10 m). Own the Marn group which holds the Fiat concession.

47. Anil Ruia (£10 m). Manchester based, he buys cloth for finishing and dyeing.

48. Gurdip Singh Gujral (£10 m). Owns Jasko India, which imports women's wear from India, Pakistan and Thailand to sell them in Britain and Europe.

49. Om Parkash Gulati (£10 m). Owns Welcome Travel which is Air India's general sales agent in Britain.

50. Ashok Tandon (£10 m). Owns Million Dollar Homes, estate agents and property developers. —AMIT ROY

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Say 'good morning' in Frankfurt. Have a good day anywhere in Europe.

On Lufthansa you arrive in Frankfurt early in the morning. At just the right time to begin your day. Or catch your connecting flight to any major city in Europe or beyond. It's all part of Lufthansa's commitment to help you meet your growing business commitments. Swiftly, relaxed and on time.

Lufthansa

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

LIKE THE WARMT

TERENE / WOOL WORSTE

FOUR DECADES OF CLASS

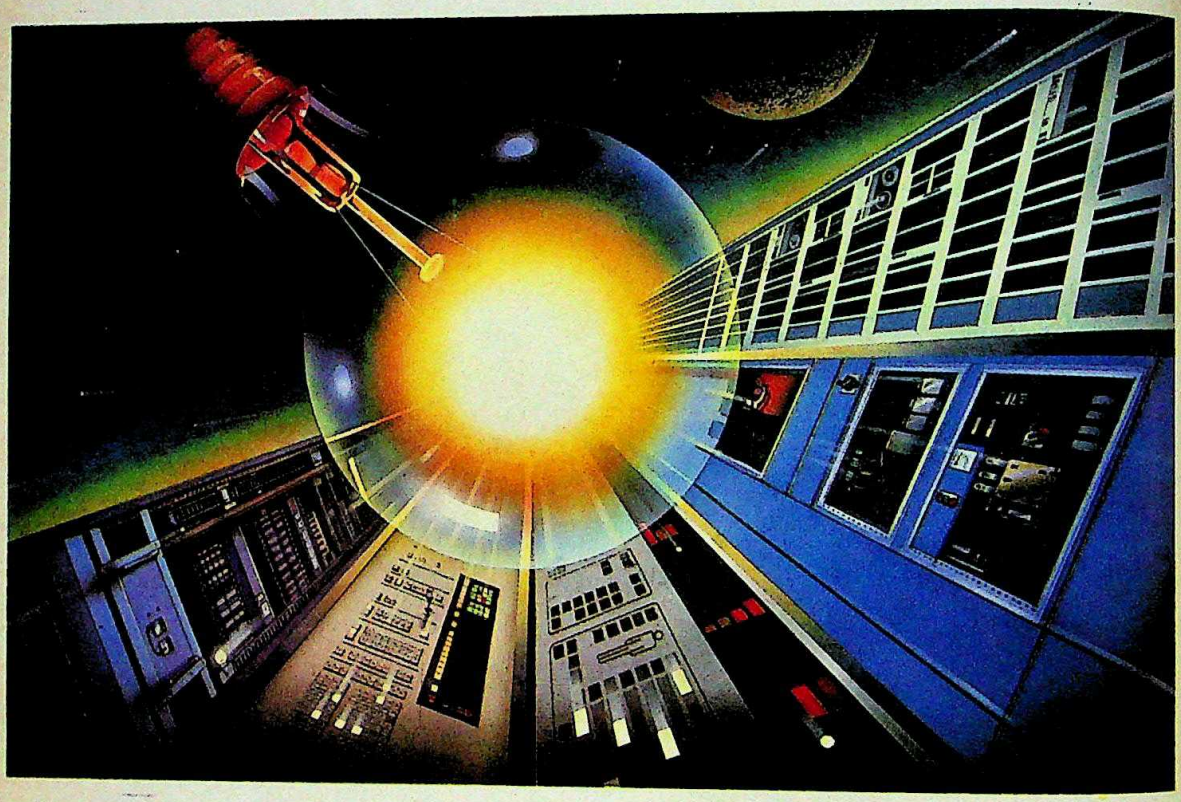
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

SIEMENS



Tomorrow's Highlights

From Siemens continuously emerge ideas and discoveries that light the path to the future. Innovative ideas that are focussed on the specific needs of the country, today and tomorrow. High-tech made home-tech!

At Siemens, the driving forces of technology are products and systems that will improve productivity, reliability and efficiency. Not only in exciting new areas but in existing lines that are the very essence of 'Siemens'.

Siemens sets the standard in a wide range of products, systems and projects. These include control and automation systems, railway signalling equipment, medical electronics, switchgear, switchboards, drives and motors, turnkey projects or new dimensions in telecommunications.

Ideas are fragile things. It takes the full support and commitment of a worldwide organisation to make sure they stay lit.

Siemens 'technovations' are focussed on the widespread needs of health care in India.

Siemens Ltd.,
P.O. Box 6597,
Bombay 400 018.

Siemens.
Where international technology meets human needs.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Cartoon by JAYANTO

MANAGEMENT

Exit Revelations

Companies interview outgoing employees

WHEN Ragini Srinivasan, 30, marketing controller with a Rs 100-crore Pune-based company, resigned her job, she expected, at best, a polite goodbye chat with her boss. But she was in for a surprise. The cursory farewell she expected turned out to be quite an elaborate affair.

For one, the meeting was attended by the managing director and the human resources director besides her own immediate boss. The chieftains wanted to know why she had decided to quit, what kind of person she thought could replace her, whether internal systems operated satisfactorily and what the management could do to improve the work environment. Encouraged, Srinivasan found herself talking frankly about the frustrations she had encountered. Her bosses listened attentively.

What happened to Srinivasan is not unique. Of late more and more Indian companies seem to have become sensitive to the sentiments of departing employees. The reason is not far to seek: in today's fast-paced corporate world employees are a valuable resource and company managements are keen on curbing job-hopping. One obvious solution is to offer more attractive compensation packages. But money is often not the key issue. Job satisfaction—however nebulous it may be to define—is also a factor influencing mobility. Thus, in order to retain existing talent, companies are increasingly resorting to a new ploy: the exit interview.

As a concept, the exit interview has been around for a while. But until recently it had been the preserve of large multinational concerns. And in most cases, such interviews tended to be informal, in the nature of a civilised tete-a-tete before parting ways. All that is changing. Companies are now formalising the exit interview by incorporating it as an integral part of their personnel policy.

Exit interviews are usually conducted after an employee's resignation has been accepted. A typical interview will include questions like these:

- What are your reasons for quitting?
- When and why did you begin to look outside?
- Did you like your job?
- Did you get along with your boss?
- What suggestions do you have to make this a better place?

There is evidence to indicate that a system of conducting exit interviews pays off handsomely. At Cadbury's India, exit interviews revealed that technical trainees felt their future in the company was not as bright as those with business management degrees. Says Arun Joshi, the company's vice-president, human resources development: "We now give an opportunity to technical staff to work in departments handling sales and marketing." The result: the number of technical trainees quitting Cadbury's has come down.

At Indian Hotels Ltd, exit interviews revealed an "insensitive" sectional head. Says V.S. Mahesh, vice-president, human resources: "We were able to intiate remedial action and the staff turnover magically stopped."

In large companies, exit interviews are valuable in gauging the pulse of employees who feel they are insignificant cogs and wheels in a gigantic machine. At Voltas Ltd, for instance, the tenor of exit interviews triggered off a phase of introspection in the company. The management then decided to engage an outside consultant to conduct a survey over an eight-month period to find out ways in which its employees could feel more motivated in their jobs.

Exit interviews provide an opportunity for employees to express themselves freely and frankly—something they may not be able to do on the job. Says Ramesh Kumar, a sales representative who recently quit his job with an office automation company: "I gave the top management a piece of my mind and I must say it felt good."

Besides Voltas, other companies which regularly conduct exit interviews range from Mukand Ltd, the second-largest manufacturer of steel in the private sector, to Ratnatreya Heat Exchangers, a Bombay-based manufacturer of automobile spares and Fulchand Exports Ltd, a medium-sized export house.

Among multinationals too, there has been a renewed effort to incorporate the findings of exit interviews into decision-making at top management levels. Cyanamid-India, a pharmaceutical and agro-chemicals company, formally incorporated exit interviews into its personnel policy in January 1989. Other companies who regularly hold such interviews are Colgate-Palmolive, ANZ-Grindlays, Procter & Gamble, Nestle India, Wockhardt and East India Hotels.

For the human resources manager, desperately trying to stem the haemorrhage of valuable employees, the exit interview has certainly become an increasingly useful tool.

—SHIV TANEJA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Statement of the Chairman, Mr. Nani A. Palkhivala

(54th Annual General Meeting at the Birla Matushri Sabhagar, 19, Sir Vithaldas Thackersey Marg, Bombay-400 020, on Thursday, September 13, 1990, at 3.45 p.m.)

In the four and fifty years of its existence, your Company has seen our people constantly opening doors with hope and closing them with despair. But never before did it see such a murky storm brood over the unity and integrity of the country.

On the moral plane, India – which has the potential to be the Light of Asia – has become a black hole. Our country is dangerously drifting towards the position of a state without a nation.

The moral bedrock of Indian society has turned to lava. Not content with risking the loss of national identity by sustained bouts of religious fundamentalism and linguistic and regional fanaticism, we are now whipping up a frenzied confrontation between the urban and rural sectors, and between the backward and "forward" classes. The Circle of Divisiveness is complete. We can do no more to ensure the fulfilment of Miss Jean Dixon's clairvoyant prediction of India's disintegration before the end of the century.

Ages ago India evolved the transcendent concept of BUDDHI. Today no country can claim to have less of it than the originator of the concept.

However, the picture is not gloomy to those who count all the wealth of a nation in money. The stock exchange has gone through the roof. Now is the chance of getting money without earning it.

Never mind that more than 90 per cent of all activity on the stock exchange is purely speculative. Anyway, no one reads Lord Keynes who warned: "Speculators may do no harm as bubbles on a steady stream of enterprise. But the position is serious when enterprise becomes the bubble on a whirlpool of speculation. When the capital development of a country becomes a by-product of the activities of a casino, the job is likely to be ill done."

The cement industry

To quote from my Statement to you last September: "I have no doubt that the depression in the cement industry will not last long. 'Even this shall pass away'... The foresight of those who, like your Company, are expanding their capacity, will be fully justified by events." I was not off the mark.

The capacity of the cement industry, at the end of the Seventh Plan, has been put at 60.5 million tonnes. To meet the projected demand, the capacity will have to be increased to 81.5 million tonnes by the end of the Eighth Plan. Since four million tonnes of existing uneconomic capacity will have to be scrapped soon, the industry will need to install 25 million tonnes of additional capacity during the five years of the Eighth Plan. Present indications show that only 10 million tonnes of new capacity will be created during that period.

The hike in administered prices and costs totally beyond the control of the manufacturers – steep increases in coal prices, electricity charges, and railway freight – were not compensated by any corresponding rise in the cement prices which continued to remain depressed till the end of 1989.

Last year I had pleaded that cement should be placed outside the purview of the Essential Commodi Act which makes it obligatory for dealers to go through the arduous process of obtaining licences at considerable cost in time and mo The good news today is that at lo last the Government has delicense the sale of cement.

The laying of concrete roads i Bombay has been a sensible step. Marine Drive, constructed decades (incidentally with ACC cement), h cost the Bombay municipality less maintain than any other artery of city and is the least pock-marked w potholes.

Fair market price

In deference to the Governme request, cement producers had ro back prices in mid-April for a spec period. In view of the public conc about the free market prices, the following points call for recapitulati

First, for the greater part of the market price of cement remai below the cost of production and transport. So it is natural that ev reasonably remunerative prices to appear high compared to those rock-bottom prices.

Secondly, it is incontrovertible that the industry should aim at mak only a fair profit, – which is whol different from profiteering. The a of your Company has always been offer to the nation a high quality product at a fair price. We are continuously monitoring our mark network to ensure that there is no over-charging by the agencies throu whom the product reaches the customer.

Thirdly, input costs continue show unremitting increases and, therefore it would not be possible the industry to adhere indefinitely the prices as rolled back in mid-Ap

Fourthly, increased productio alone can be the final guarantee of availability of the product at fair market prices. Increased producti pre-supposes easy access to coal, p

ACC times change

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ACC The Associated Cement Companies Limited

and rail transport, all of which are in the public sector and therefore none of which is in adequate supply. Socialism has been discredited all over the world; but it continues to be the sacred cow of India. History will record – with almost disbelief – how high a price was paid, and how long, for inane ideology by our rulers functioning in a thought-free zone.

Price control by the Government can never be the answer. Let us not forget that it is four decades of strangulating controls which, in the last analysis, are really responsible for the present sporadic imbalances between supply and demand in different parts of India. Inflation, shortages and unduly wide price fluctuations are the inevitable result of controls, – as the whole of Eastern Europe is relearning to its cost.

This year falls the bicentenary of Adam Smith who preached the profound truth that the market would, literally, deliver the goods and should, by and large, be left alone. There is only one cure for the evils which newly acquired freedom produces; and that is freedom.

The Company's working

The Directors' Report highlights the main features of your Company's working during the year. The accounts reflect the steep increases in the costs of essential inputs, – upward revision of railway freight, hikes in power tariffs by State Electricity Boards, and increases in the price of coal. Dearness allowance payable to employees, which is linked to the cost of living index, has gone up. There was a hike in excise duty on cement by Rs. 10.50 per tonne. The total burden on the Company on account of the increases in costs aggregated to Rs. 49 crores.

The management of your Company took several measures to minimize the adverse impact of such cost escalation and to improve the overall profitability.

The Company actively pursued the two-pronged policy of divesting such of the loss making units as did not have a potential for major growth; and investing in process optimization and efficiency-based schemes at the other units of the Company.

Two major structural changes have been effected. First, the refractory business has been streamlined to operate as a profit centre with clearly defined goals and accountability. Secondly, expertise and talent have been pooled together in the areas of process optimization, geology and mining, research and development, technical and management training, erection and construction. Our abundant human resources in these fields are now housed under one roof, – the Research and Consultancy Directorate (RCD) at the Central Research Station, Thane. Brain formation will be in the 1990s what capital formation was in the 1890s.

Modernization and expansion

The optimization programmes – to achieve increased production and reduce energy consumption – have been completed at Wadi, Jamul, Chanda and Gagal plants.

At Madukkarai, the new unit which was successfully commissioned last year is now operating at its rated capacity. Plans are under way for total conversion to lignite firing, in collaboration with Rheinbraun Engineering of West Germany. The completion of this project, at a cost of Rs. 5.25 crores, will insulate the Madukkarai factory from the vagaries of coal supplies. Further, the capacity of the plant will also be augmented in the current year to over six lakh tonnes per annum, at a cost of Rs. 6 crores.

To counteract the uncertainty in the supply of coal, both in terms of quality and quantity, we are installing a coal washery at Kymore which will enable the Company to use low grade coal from cheaper sources. This project, now under implementation, is expected to be completed by the end of the current year.

At Gagal, we shall achieve increased efficiency in use of energy and be able to increase clinker capacity by using technology borrowed from Nihon Cement Company, Japan. The cost of this project, estimated at Rs. 27 crores, is proposed to be financed through the financial institutions. Further, a letter of intent has been received for the proposed expansion of the Gagal works by another one million tonnes. The completion of both these projects by early 1993, will boost the plant's rated capacity to almost two million tonnes per annum.

Ecology and environment

The human race is the endangering species which makes all others the endangered species. The Company not only continues its efforts to reduce air pollution by the installation of electrostatic precipitators at the works, but is paying special attention to improving the environment both at the factories and at the mines. Larger areas of land are being provided tree cover. When the geologists leave the mines, other specialists move in to beautify the surroundings. At Jamul, Madukkarai, Chanda, Gagal and Katni, the landscaping and other greenbelt development efforts have transformed the areas in a manner which would gladden the heart of Mrs. Maneka Gandhi.

Industrial relations, by and large, were cordial and peaceful. On your behalf and on behalf of the management, I take this opportunity of expressing our appreciation and gratitude to Dr. Subrata Ganguly and his able team, and to each member of the ACC family, for their dedicated contribution towards keeping the Company in its premier position.

Bombay, August 13, 1990.

our values don't ACC

ACC 4384A(R)

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

AGRICULTURE

Monsoon Magic

Bumper crops, and a boost to industrial production

IF the crisis-ridden National Front Government is searching for a silver lining, perhaps it should look heavenwards. For, the overcast skies, which have been a constant feature of this year's south west monsoon, bear a cheery message: Indian agriculture is third time lucky.

Rarely has the country enjoyed such good rains in three consecutive years. Although the Indian Meteorology Department had forecast another "fine monsoon year" the farmers themselves had rated the chance as low. After some heart-stopping hesitation in the month of July, however, the monsoons have so far exceeded all earlier expectations.

Last week, three-quarters of the way through the kharif season, Krishi Bhavan officials in Delhi had a bushel of good news:

- Rice, the season's main crop, was heading for a record production of 68 million tonnes.
- Coarse cereal crops like maize, bajra and jowar were also faring well.
- Sugarcane was shooting to its third successive bumper crop.
- And the mood on the pulses front was definitely upbeat.

However, the only cause for concern in an otherwise positive scenario was Gujarat, where due to poor rains in the Saurashtra belt, the groundnut crop suffered. When Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh in his Independence Day speech appealed to the overcast sky to move westwards, the monsoon obliged. It rained heavily for three days in Gujarat immediately after that but still was late for the groundnut crop. As a result, now only 13 lakh of the 18 lakh hectares of groundnut in the state have been sown. In Ahmedabad, Dr D.G. Faldu, Gujarat's agriculture director says: "The situation is quite grim. More rains in the next month could, however, ease things a bit."

Since Gujarat accounts for over a third of the country's total groundnut production, the Union Agriculture Ministry anticipates a shortfall in edible oil. Luckily in the other groundnut producing states like Maharashtra and Karnataka the crop is doing well. And other oilseed crops like soyabean and sunflower are also reportedly heading for excellent yields.

The state that may, however, make amends for Gujarat's plight is surprisingly Rajasthan. With some of the century's best rains lashing the state, not only is the groundnut crop heading for a bumper season but so are its coarse cereal crops. In Jaipur, C.S. Rajan, Rajasthan's director for agriculture observes: "The rains this year have been absolutely fantastic. Almost 90 per cent of the districts have had normal to excess rainfall. Moreover, this year we have even had floods in six desert districts."

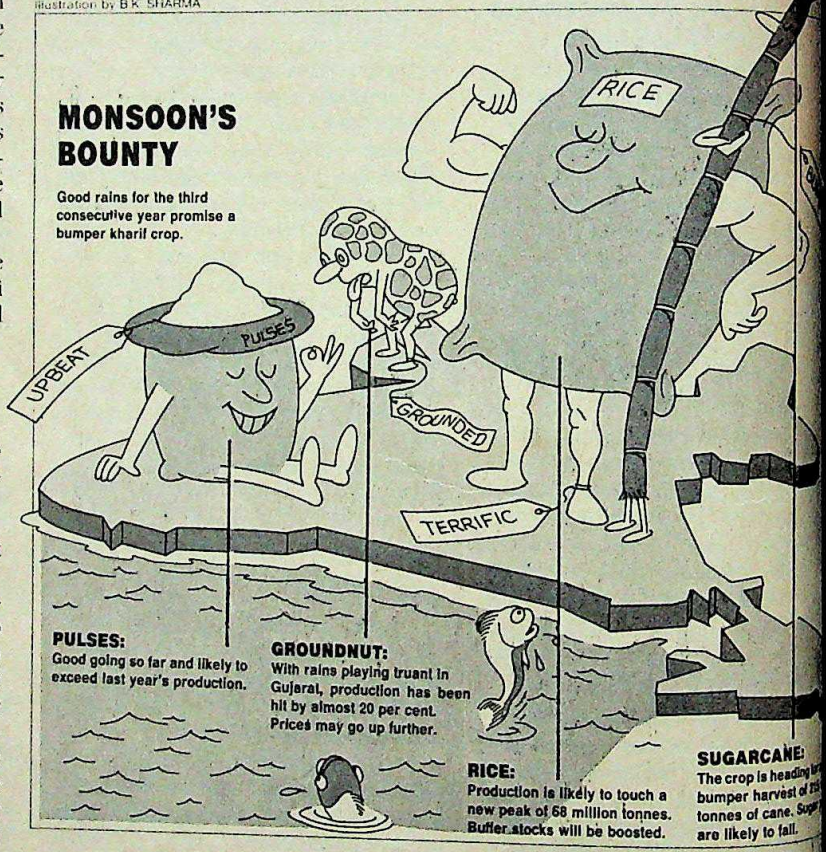
Aside from the situation in Rajasthan, this year's monsoon had some other redeeming features. For one, in the green revolution areas of Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana, abundant rains saw farmers using less of electricity to pump water to fields thereby lowering the cost of production. And, significantly, despite the rains, throughout the country there has been no major outbreak of pests in any of the crops. In Delhi, a senior Union Agriculture Ministry official says: "Barring natural calamities, we are almost over the hill. This year's kharif is the best that we could have hoped for."

That has several crucial implications for the country's economy. For one, the Government's buffer stocks position is excellent. After harvesting the kharif crop it is likely to touch 22 million tonnes—equivalent to what it was just before the 1987 drought. The fodder situation too is comfortable. As a result food prices, especially that of sugar, are likely to register a fall after October. The only exception here being groundnut, where the shortfall in Gujarat may not be able to halt the galloping edible oil prices.

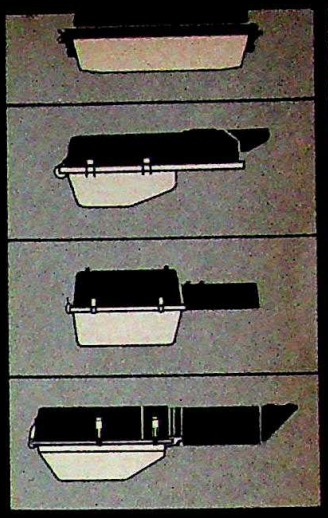
In addition the good monsoon is likely to stimulate rural employment and give a fillip to industrial production as well. And for the National Front Government, whose very existence has been threatened by one crisis after another in the nine months that it has been in power, all this could not have been better timed.

—RAJ CHENGAPPA

Illustration by B.K. SHARMA



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar



When you're driving down a rain-swept highway, improper lighting could mean the difference between life and death...

Bajaj brings you a range of luminaires and lighting systems. Designed by computers to suit virtually every lighting need. Be it for industries, commercial institutions or street lighting.

TRUST BAJAJ

Each made to our own demanding standards. As well as to the stringent specifications of the Bureau of Indian Standards, Commission Electrotechnique Internationale and of other international organisations.

For our advisory service on lighting and/or lighting installation design, write to General Manager (Lighting), Bajaj Electricals Limited, 51 Mahatma Gandhi Road, Bombay 400 023, or contact our nearest regional/branch office.

bajaj group

bajaj bajaj

LUMINAIRES
Spreading Light – scienti

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

R & D.
For us it's a passion that has heightened our contribution to industry.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

For over forty years, The Andhra Sugars has believed in a corporate dictum. That of a desire to excel. Which is why R & D remains a top priority. The constant development and upgradation of technology is of paramount importance at The Andhra Sugars.

From a modest enterprise that began with a sugar factory, The Andhra Sugars is today, a strong corporate entity that has thrived on innovation and diversification. A pioneer in the indigenous development of the technology for the production of Aspirin, The Andhra Sugars also has the distinction of being chosen to develop vital inputs for the Indian space programme.

The Andhra Sugars also manufactures a range of chemicals at their industrial complexes. Chemicals such as acetic acid, acetic anhydride, ethyl acetate, sulphuric acid, caustic soda, caustic potash, chlorine, hydrochloric acid, chlorosulphonic acid, alum... that find wide application in thermal power, rayon, aluminium, refineries, pharmaceuticals and in almost every core industry. The Andhra Sugars is one of the architects of The A.P. Gas Corporation Ltd., generating power from natural gas to overcome the perennial power shortage experienced by industries.

In over four decades, our emphasis on research and development spurred on by the desire to excel, has got us where we are today. A multi-crore conglomerate soon to diversify into soaps, oils and petrochemicals. Looking towards the future with a renewed sense of commitment to industry. And progress.

THE ANDHRA SUGARS LTD. TANUKU

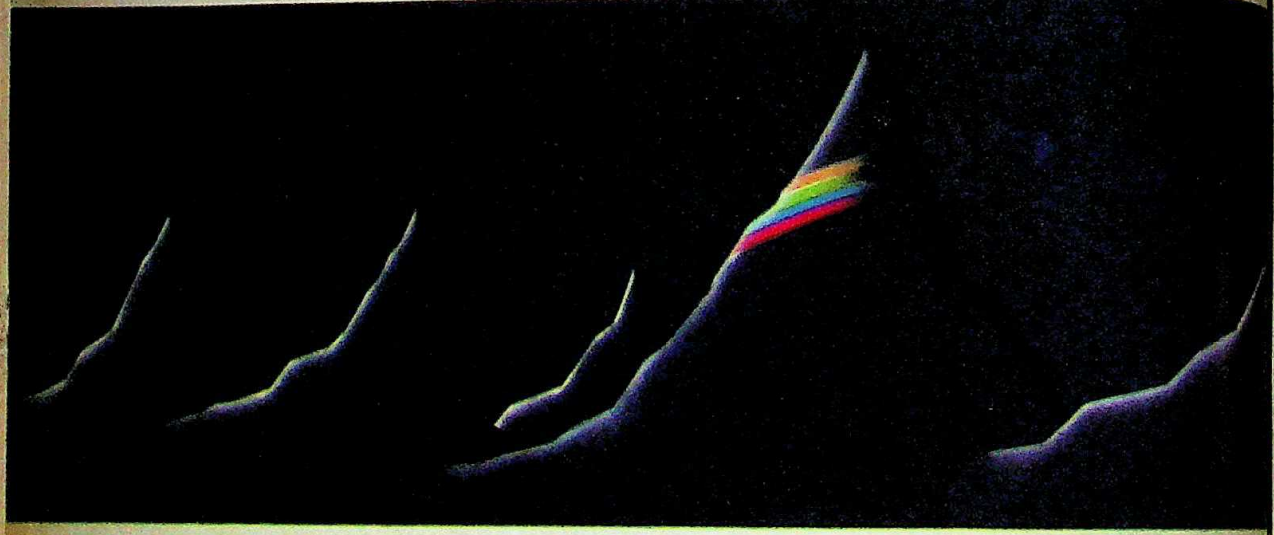
THE ANDHRA SUGARS LTD.

Venkatarayapuram
Tanuku (West Godavari Dist.) Andhra Pradesh

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

As soon as we reach one summit, we strive for the next.



Century ... India's largest exporter of cotton textiles. Now also a leading producer of cement.

From a modest beginning in 1975, Century has blossomed into India's largest exporter of cotton textiles. Earning more than Rs. 100 crore in hard currency in the year 1989-90.

Over the years Century diversified into rayon yarn, tyrecord, minerals & chemicals, cement, pulp & paper and shipping. In all these areas the Company has made its mark.

In cement, the Company has achieved remarkable success in a short time. Cement manufactured at its most modern plants, CENTURY CEMENT, MAIHAR CEMENT, MANIKGARH CEMENT is now being marketed in almost all parts of the country.

Century is now exploring new avenues to create more productive assets for the country, and more opportunities for our people to better the quality of their lives.

CENTURY

Century Textiles and Industries Limited
Century Bhavan, Dr. Annie Besant Road, Worli, Bombay 400 025.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

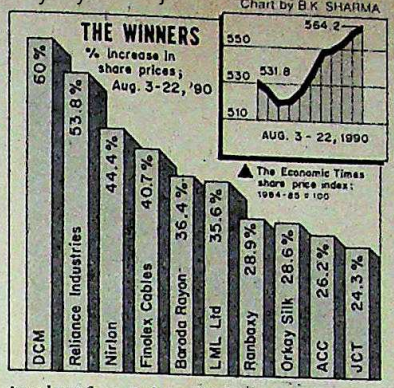
— the dawn of a new era

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

THE MARKETS

Still Buoyant

Prices continue to move up



THE Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and the subsequent sabre-rattling depressed stock-markets around the world. However, for India's insulated capital markets, it was business as usual.

Last fortnight, the 30-scrip sensitive index of the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) surged ahead relentlessly, to touch an all-time high of 1,157.78 on August 22. The all-India *Economic Times* share price index also surged ahead—it steadily climbed to a high of 544.5 on July 27 before sliding to 520.8 on August 8, and then again perked up to hit a new peak of 564.2 on August 22.

Though there is widespread apprehension that the increase in world oil prices will play havoc with the country's balance of payments which are already precarious, bull operators seemed to be in no mood to slow down their onward charge.

Despite a brief phase of profit-taking last fortnight which witnessed certain pivotal scrips like Tata Steel slipping marginally, the values of most other major shares continued to move up. For instance, the Reliance Industries scrip flared up to a high of Rs 155 following heavy speculative purchases by bulls who had built up strong positions in the share. Tata Power's Rs 100 share also touched Rs 1,530 before closing the fortnight a shade lower at Rs 1,490, implying a net gain of Rs 120 in the course of a week. Among the other high-fliers last fortnight were DCM, Nirlon, Finolex, Baroda Rayon, LML, Ranbaxy and Orkay Silk.

In early-August, stock exchange authorities all over the country had imposed a series of restrictions on trading ostensibly to check unbounded speculation. These included a complete ban on forward trading in group A shares (which are actively traded) and the imposition of buyers' margins for cash purchases of group B (less-active) shares in Bombay, spot delivery of group A shares in Calcutta and the fixing of a 10-per cent price-band for inter-market trading in listed scrips in Madras.

Brokers had complained bitterly about these restrictions and some of them even boycotted trading in protest. Thus, the removal of these curbs brought considerable good cheer. The activity of bulls apart, an important factor contributing to the boom has been the substantial purchases by mutual funds.

A mind-boggling sum of Rs 1,000 crore is believed to have been pumped into the markets by the three new funds floated by the Bank of India, Canara Bank and Punjab National Bank. In addition to this, there were reports that the rain gods had been extremely kind to most parts of the country which added to the general buoyancy in the markets.

ACTIVE STOCKS

	1990 HIGH	1990 LOW	CLOSE 22.8.90	Change in Fortnight
Ashok Leyland	113.00	69.50	113.00	6.00 +
Associated Cement	1470.00	325.00	1375.00	265.00 +
Asian Paints	272.50	207.50	255.00	5.00 – *
Atlas Copco	56.00	32.50	48.50	3.50 +
Bajaj Auto	605.00	355.00	590.00	31.25 +
Baroda Rayon	1550.00	617.50	1500.00	380.00 + *
Bata India	83.00	62.50	79.00	2.00 +
Ballarpur	232.00	120.00	228.00	30.00 +
Birla Jute	148.00	50.50	140.00	18.00 +
Blow Plast	85.00	34.50	85.00	10.00 +
Bombay Dyeing	306.00	173.00	290.00	30.00 +
Britannia Ind.	143.00	97.00	140.00	6.00 +
Brooke Bond	142.00	91.00	140.00	6.00 +
Cadbury India	192.50	133.75	177.50	1.25 –
Century Textiles	4550.00	2420.00	4250.00	400.00 +
Colgate Palmolive	307.50	176.25	295.00	17.50 +
Cyanamid	135.00	87.50	110.00	10.00 +
DCM	125.00	45.50	112.00	42.00 +
Dunlop	75.50	51.75	72.00	3.00 + *
E.I. Hotels	65.25	50.00	60.00	2.50 +
Escorts	126.00	77.75	123.00	11.00 +
Finolex Cables	410.00	200.00	380.00	110.00 +
Garware Nylon	69.00	48.00	59.00	7.00 +
G.E. Shipping	54.75	39.50	42.25	2.25 –
G.S.F.C.	262.50	155.00	225.00	10.00 –
Grasim Ind.	185.00	106.00	178.00	10.00 + *
Hind. Aluminium	395.00	205.00	370.00	35.00 +
Hind. Ciba	1800.00	960.00	1650.00	25.00 –
Hindustan Lever	146.25	101.00	145.00	7.50 +
Hindustan Motors	52.25	19.80	47.50	1.50 +
Hoechst	3100.00	1295.00	3000.00	250.00 +
ICI India Ltd.	50.00	35.25	48.00	4.00 +
Indian Organic	80.00	46.50	74.00	4.50 +
Indian Rayon	167.50	84.00	152.00	1.50 –
Indrol	286.25	161.25	248.75	6.25 –
Ingersoll-Rand	287.50	190.00	287.50	7.50 + *
ITC	125.00	48.75	125.00	21.00 +
J.K. Synthetics	90.00	50.00	79.00	9.00 +
Kinetic Engineering	197.50	130.00	192.50	16.25 +
Kirloskar Cummins	106.00	65.00	92.50	2.50 +
KSB Pumps	235.00	175.00	220.00	nil
Larsen & Toubro	125.00	57.00	116.00	11.00 +
Lipton	112.00	73.00	85.00	2.50 –
LML Ltd.	40.00	15.00	40.00	11.50 +
Madura Coats	153.00	100.50	150.00	nil
M&M	107.50	67.50	92.50	7.50 – *
Milk Food	280.00	115.00	175.00	20.00 –
Motor Industries	1200.00	780.00	1000.00	60.00 +
Mukand Ltd.	166.00	127.00	159.00	9.00 +
National Organic	1660.00	1070.00	1550.00	25.00 + *
Nestle India	150.00	101.75	130.00	10.00 –
Nirlon	27.00	13.00	26.00	6.50 +
Orkay Silk Mills	42.00	14.50	36.00	9.50 +
Pelco Electronics	75.00	24.00	70.00	10.00 +
Pfizer	113.75	72.50	77.50	17.50 –
Premier Auto	83.00	53.50	68.00	4.00 –
Raymond	120.00	70.00	114.00	20.00 +
Reckitt & Colman	256.00	178.00	250.00	12.00 +
Reliance Industries	199.00	50.00	181.50	66.00 +
Siemens India	139.00	96.00	128.00	nil
Shaw Wallace	122.00	65.00	100.00	1.00 +
Shriram Fibres	71.00	43.00	61.75	1.50 –
SKF Bearings	2125.00	1240.00	2000.00	200.00 +
SPIC	76.00	50.75	64.00	3.00 –
Tata Steel	164.00	103.25	151.00	2.50 –
Telco	235.00	110.00	220.00	20.00 +
Vam Organic	185.00	115.00	175.00	23.75 +
Videocon Int.	285.00	105.00	275.00	67.50 +
Voltas	130.00	63.00	117.50	7.50 +
Wimco	35.00	15.75	31.00	1.00 +

* Ex-dividend

WORLD VALUE OF RUPEE

COUNTRY	CURRENCY	UNIT	TT Selling Rates Rs	TT Buying Rates Rs
Australia	Dollar	1	14.2210	14.0784
Austria	Shilling	1	1.5906	1.5683
Bahrain	Dinar	1	46.5507	46.0000
Bangladesh	Taka	100	50.0000	49.8600
Canada	Dollar	1	15.3220	15.1693
Denmark	Kroner	1	2.9237	2.8934
Egypt	Pound	1	6.0000	5.8628
France	Franc	1	3.3670	3.2841
Hong Kong	Dollar	1	2.2529	2.2314
Indonesia	Rupiah	100	0.0900	0.0800
Iran	Rial	100	25.1200	25.0700
Italy	Lira	100	1.5123	1.4963
Japan	Yen	100	12.0919	11.7925
Kenya	Shilling	1	0.7500	0.7400
Kuwait	Dinar	1	59.6152	57.6701
Malaysia	Dollar	1	6.4971	6.4328
Mauritius	Rupee	1	1.1900	1.1500
Nepal	Rupee	1	0.5920	0.5500
Netherlands	Guilder	1	9.9336	9.8306
Pakistan	Rupee	1	0.8020	0.7600
Singapore	Dollar	1	9.7783	9.6797
Spain	Peseta	1	0.1719	0.1500
Sri Lanka	Rupee	1	0.4420	0.4100
Sweden	Kroner	1	3.0404	3.0000
Switzerland	Franc	1	13.4457	13.3022
Tanzania	Shilling	1	0.0900	0.0800
Thailand	Baht	1	0.6800	0.6698
UK	Pound	1	33.2834	33.0415
USA	Dollar	1	17.5131	17.3461
UAE	Dirham	1	4.7526	4.7000
USSR	Rouble	1	28.1503	27.8600
W. Germany	Deutschmark	1	11.3122	11.0375

These rates were supplied by The Bank of Tokyo Limited, New Delhi and quoted between the banks on 22.8.90.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

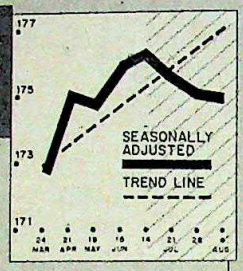
Inflation seems to be taking priority over all other economic problems. A contractionary monetary policy appears to be paying off in terms of stable wholesale prices. However, industry has suffered due to the tight credit situation and consumer prices rose slightly. The overall trade off between inflation and unemployment needs to be recognised if industry is to be given a substantial boost.

All data are seasonally adjusted. Current trends are computed on the basis of six months' (weekly data) or one-and-a-half years' (monthly data) figures.

Wholesale Price Index

1981-82 = 100

Current Trend
6.5% p.a.

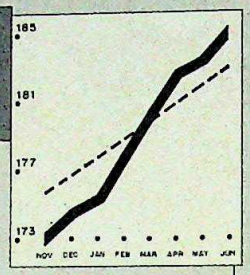


Wholesale prices have remained stable. The annual rate of inflation measured by the official index came down slightly.

Consumer Price Index

1982 = 100

Current Trend
6.9% p.a.

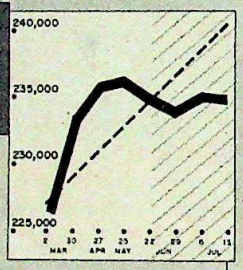


The consumer price index was up again. It seems that consumers have to bear the brunt of high retail margins.

Money Supply

Rs Crore

Current Trend
15.7% p.a.

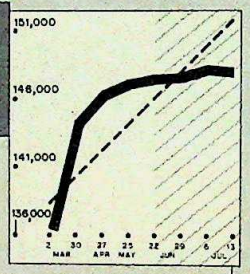


Money supply dropped marginally. The Government is apparently giving top priority to curtailing inflation.

Commercial Bank Credit

Rs Crore

Current Trend
25.7% p.a.

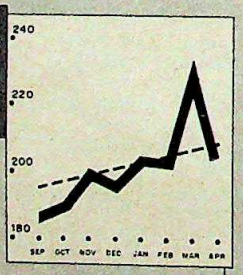


Credit advanced by commercial banks fell last fortnight. The squeeze on industry appears to be continuing.

Industrial Production Index

1980-81 = 100

Current Trend
11.8% p.a.

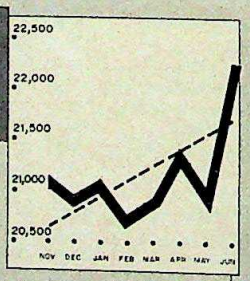


Industry slumped to its previous low level—slow industrial growth will tend to make the entire economy sluggish.

Electricity Generation

Million kWh

Current Trend
8.5% p.a.

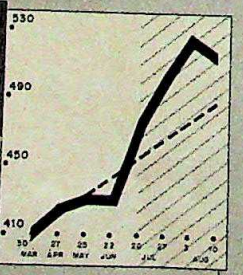


Electricity generation increased between May and June, easing supply bottlenecks for industrial development.

Share Price Index

1984-85 = 100

Current Trend
47.8% p.a.

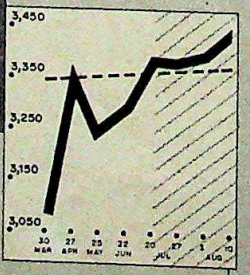


Share prices retained their buoyancy, though they registered a slight dip last fortnight over the earlier peak levels.

Closing Gold Prices

Rs per 10 gm

Current Trend
2.4% p.a.



Gold prices picked up last fortnight. It seems that demand for the yellow metal is once again outstripping supply.

WHOLESALE PRICES

Growth of items in the 2nd fortnight of July 1990

	% Growth
Onions	7.91
Vanaspati	6.00
Masoor	4.59
Khandsari	4.33
Eggs	4.25
Linseed	4.22
Gingelly Oil	4.13
Fish	4.11
Silk Raw	4.08
Coconut Oil	3.92
Rape & Mustard Seeds	3.56
Groundnut Oilcake	3.48
Mustard Oilcake	3.36
Silk & Artificial Fabrics	3.30
Coffee	2.67
Cashew-Nut	2.38
Cement	2.25
Cotton Raw	2.15
Linseed Oil	2.09
Maize	2.07
Tubes	2.04
Groundnut Oil	1.97
Bajra	1.75
Ball Bearing	1.74
Groundnut Seeds	1.73
Mustard Oil	1.68
Copra	1.65
Wheat	1.62
Arhar	1.60
Chillies	1.51
Gur	1.28
Internal Combustion Engines	1.28
Diesel Engines	1.18
Urad	1.16
Camel Back	1.14
Barley	1.07
Solvent Extracted Oil	1.07
Boilers	0.84
Moong	0.74
Board	0.56
Machine Tools	0.53
Cables & Wires	0.53
Rice	0.51
Ghee	0.50
Sugar	0.50
Gingelly Seed	0.39
Atta	0.37

Of the 134 series considered, 117 of them with a total weight of 71.794 had a non-negative rate of growth and 17 of them with a total weight of 13.058 had a negative rate of growth.

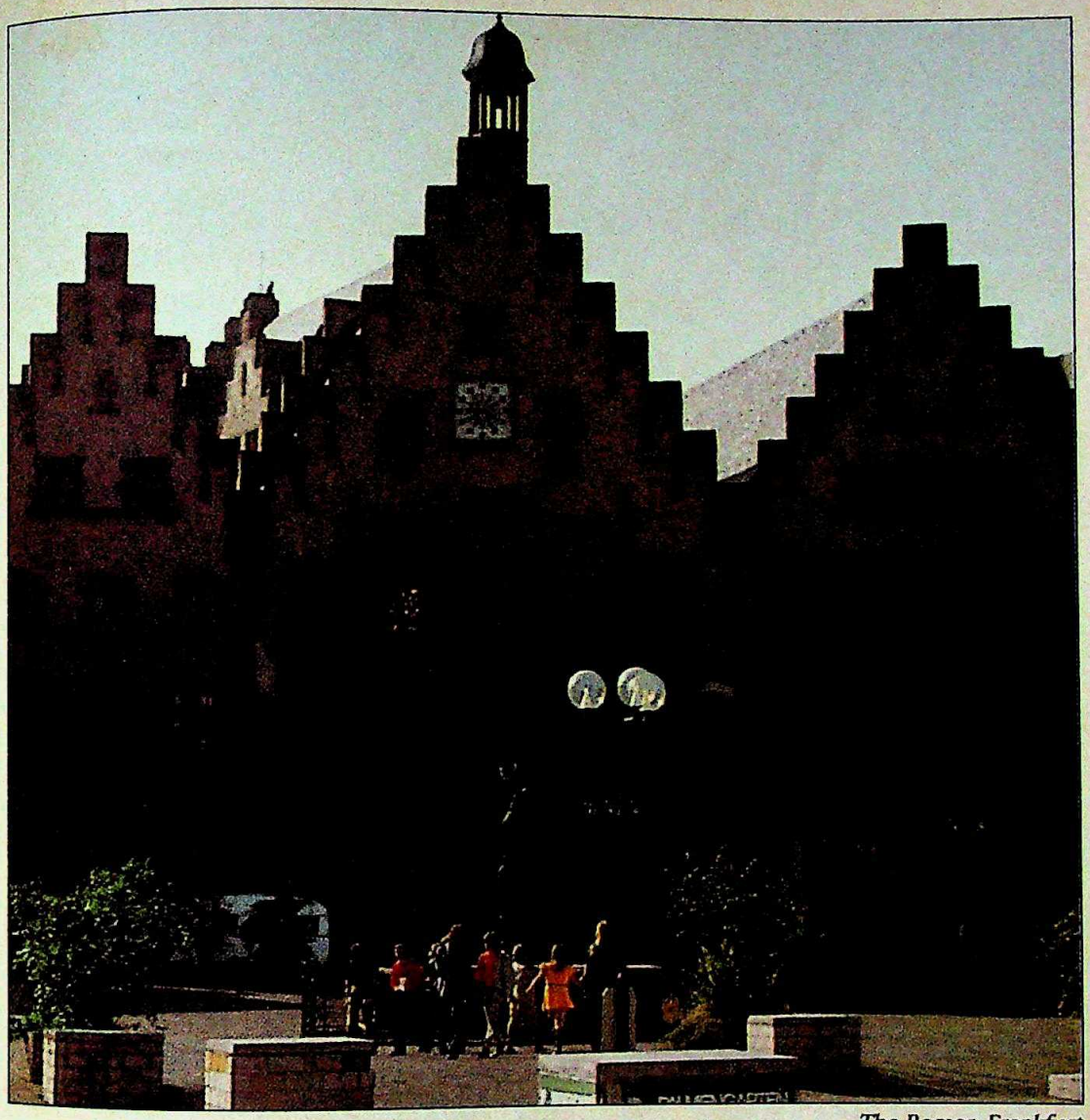
SELECTED INDICATORS

	1990	1989
Coal Thousand Tonnes, June	14,700	15,040
Saleable Steel Thousand Tonnes, June	638.7	615.6
Cement Thousand Tonnes, June	3718	3475
Fertilisers Thousand Tonnes, June	802.8	632.8
Call Money Rate Per Cent, June	12.414	12.212

Compiled by THE POLICY GROUP

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



The Romer, Frankfurt

Now ! Thai flies non-stop to Frankfurt every Monday and Wednesday

Take the smooth as silk Thai flight to Frankfurt.

And savour the special slumber seat in First Class,
the comfortable Royal Executive Class and the friendly Economy Class.

No matter where you sit, time flies faster on Thai.

For details call 332-3608, 332-4715.

Thai
Smooth as silk.

TAS(DELHI) Thai 79.254

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Can India afford to lose Rs.300

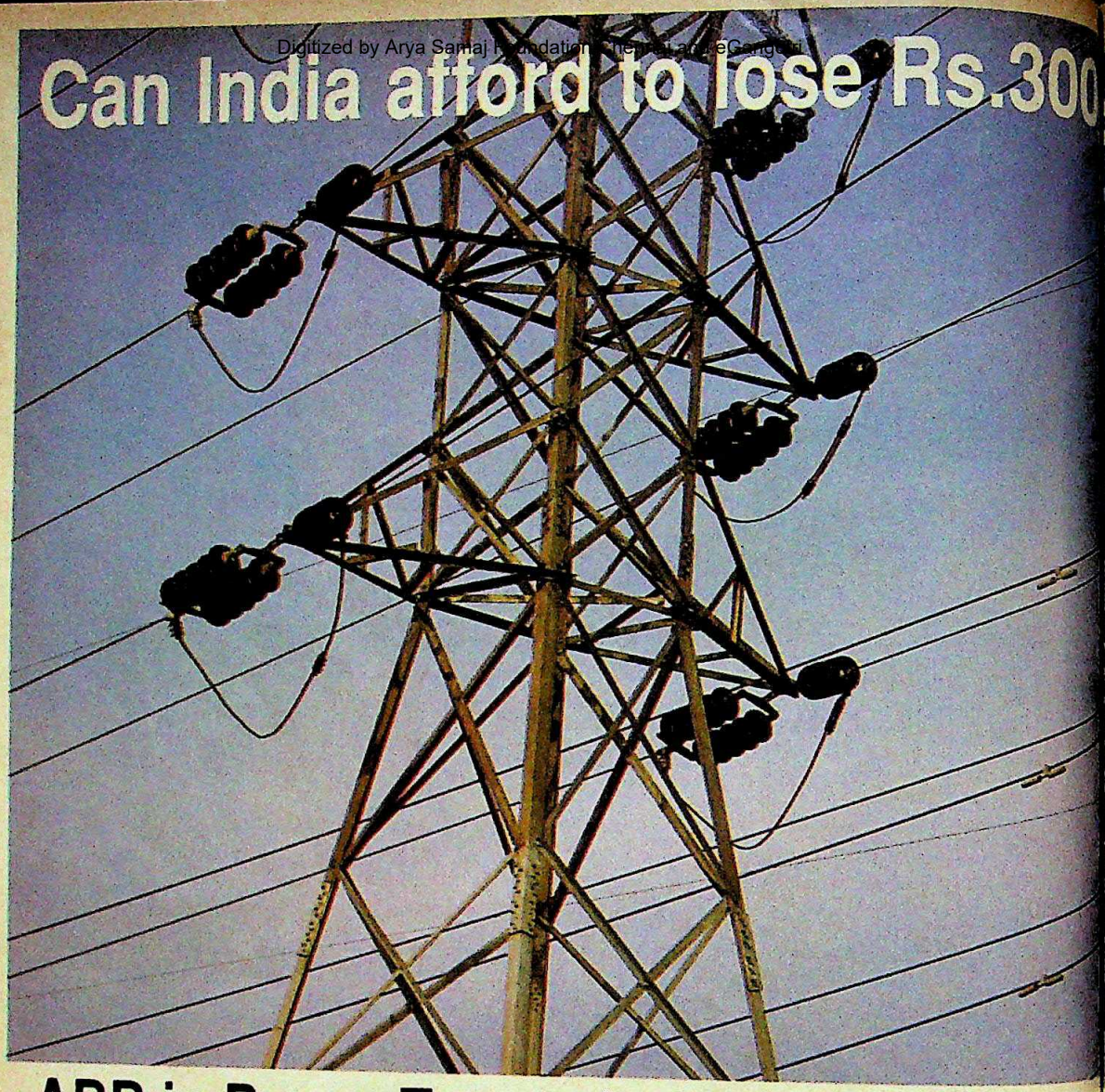


ABB in Power Transmission & Distribution Technology to cut transmission loss.

Asea Brown Boveri has the strength to stop this wastage. Through sophisticated equipment that help cut transmission costs and ensure stabilised distribution.

And advanced systems that protect a variety of electrical installations.

ABB has the leading edge to optimise the availability of electricity. With advanced technology, infrastructure and skills in Power Transmission and Distribution.

ABB. Powered by the international merger of two electrical engineering giants. Asea and Brown Boveri. Providing ABB India with privileged access to technology advances worldwide.

- Power Generation
- Power Transmission
- Power Distribution
- Industrial Electronics
- Industrial Equipment and Systems
- Transportation
- Telecommunications

ABB. THE WORLD'S LARGEST ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING GROUP.

MAA COMMUNICATIONS 1215

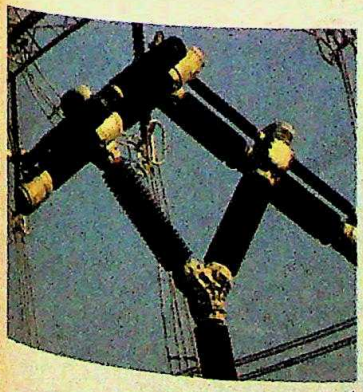
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

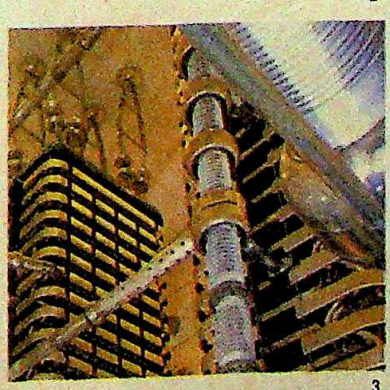
300 crores of power every year?

2

1. 400 kV SF6 Circuit Breaker
2. 220 kV Switchyard at NTPC, Anta
3. High Voltage Direct Current Valve



1



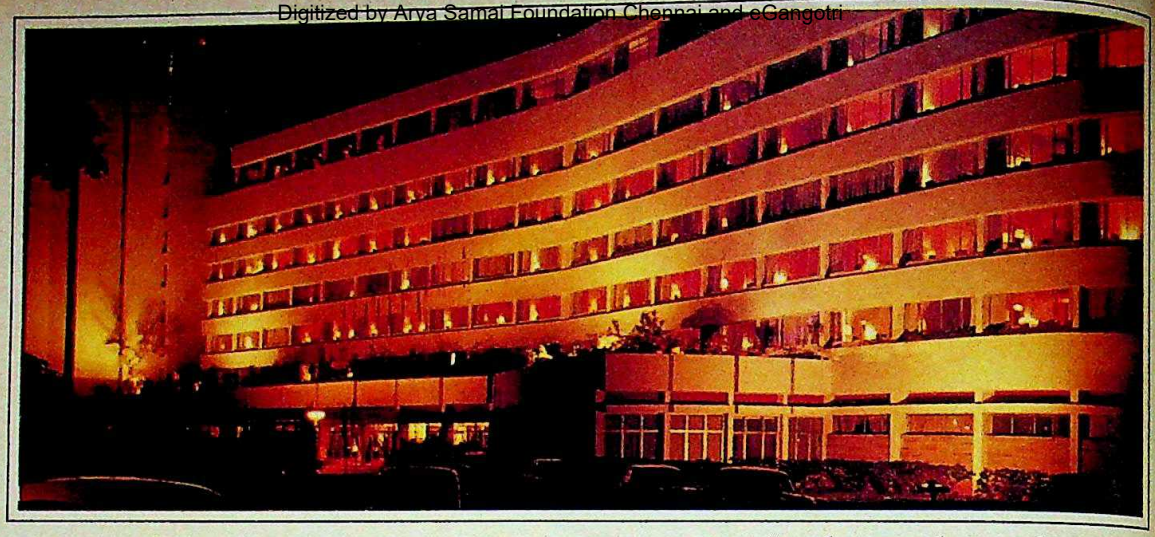
3

Asea Brown Boveri Limited
Sona Towers, 71, Miller Road
Bangalore 560 052
Tel : (0812)-266315
Telex : 0845-8394 ABBL IN
Fax : (0812)-264147

ABB
ASEA BROWN BOVERI

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

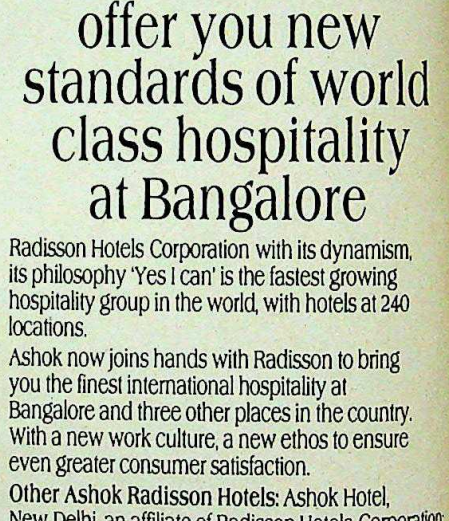


Ashok and Radisson offer you new standards of world class hospitality at Bangalore

Radisson Hotels Corporation with its dynamism, its philosophy 'Yes I can' is the fastest growing hospitality group in the world, with hotels at 240 locations.

Ashok now joins hands with Radisson to bring you the finest international hospitality at Bangalore and three other places in the country. With a new work culture, a new ethos to ensure even greater consumer satisfaction.

Other Ashok Radisson Hotels: Ashok Hotel, New Delhi, an affiliate of Radisson Hotels Corporation; Ashok Radisson Lalitha Palace Hotel, Mysore; Ashok Radisson Beach Resort, Kovalam.



Ashok Radisson Hotel, Bangalore

Kumara Krupa High Grounds,
Bangalore-560001. Tel.: 269462, 269482
Cables: ASHOKOTEL Telex: 0845-2433 ASOK IN
Fax: 260033

INDIA'S HOST TO THE WORLD

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

SRI LANKA

Communal Carnage

LTTE may be behind massacre of Muslims

TWO months after fighting began between the Sri Lankan Army and the LTTE, the spotlight has shifted elsewhere: to the gruesome massacres of civilians in the eastern part of the island, most of them perpetrated by the LTTE. The LTTE's killings of Muslims could have serious implications, for it could make the Islamic countries throw in their lot with the Sri Lankan Government.

In the last two months, over 800 civilians—Tamil, Muslim and Sinhalese—have been killed and many hundreds wounded. Perhaps the most cold-blooded massacre took place last month in division six of Eravur in eastern Sri Lanka. About 40 LTTE cadres, moved into Muslim houses at night. They shot down around 180 people, including 31 children and 28 women.

M.H.M. Ashraff, MP and leader of the Sri Lanka Muslim Congress, has demanded that residents in Muslim-dominated areas be permitted to arm themselves, but Foreign Minister Ranjan Wijeratne has turned it down.

That, of course, hasn't prevented the Muslims from retaliating on their own. In Samanthurai, they massacred 30 Tamils. And in many Muslim-dominated areas, Tamils have received notes asking them to leave.

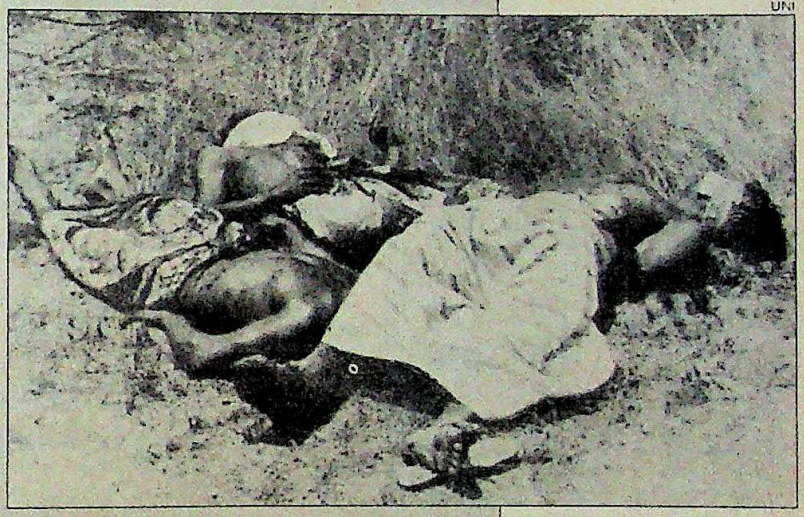
The LTTE disclaims responsibility for the killings, saying they were organised by the Government to drive a wedge between Tamils and Muslims, and get help from Arab countries. To bolster its argument, it points out that last month, Wijeratne had visited Islamic countries like Iran, Libya and Egypt. Wijeratne said he had gone to apprise them about the current situation in Sri Lanka, but it's widely believed that he was shopping for arms.

Whatever the truth, few believe the LTTE's claim that it was not responsible for the massacre of Muslims. The ire of the Tigers towards the Muslims actually came as no surprise. Ever since the hostilities with the army began in June, Muslims had aided the army in identifying LTTE hide-outs and supporters. In predominantly Muslim localities like Mavadichenai, white flags were put up as a sign of support wherever the army advanced. Troops were cheered when they passed by.

But the veneer of security provided by the Sri Lankan Army can hardly mask the pall of fear that hangs over Muslim areas. Special Task Force commandos have now been posted to keep watch at various mosques in the east after over 100 Muslims were killed by the LTTE while offering prayers in two mosques in Kathankuddi town.

Civilians killed by LTTE: senseless slaughter

UNI



The LTTE says the Government organised killings to divide Tamils and Muslims.

Sinhalese civilians too have been at the receiving end. Last fortnight, armed LTTE cadres stopped a lorry carrying 15 Sinhalese near Patimadu, north of Trincomalee, lined them up and shot them dead. To prevent such killings, the Government has appointed Sinhala and Muslim home guards and despatched them to guard their villages. And now that Muslim gangs have organised retaliatory killings, Wijeratne says he may have to recruit Tamil home guards.

He argues that the Tigers' strategy in killing Sinhalese and Tamil civilians is to distract army operations currently concentrated in the north and frustrate attempts to launch a major offensive. Karavai Kandaswamy, a PLOTE leader, argues differently. "The LTTE," he says, "can no more win on its own. So it tries to create communal riots hoping that if there is a backlash, international help will arrive."

The Tigers are now once again looking towards India for help. Top LTTE leader Sathasivam Krishnakumar alias Kittu says that India should not regard the present conflict in Sri Lanka as merely a secessionist movement but as a situation in which the entire Tamil race was facing genocide. But after the experience of the IPKF, the Indian Government is going to think thrice before changing its policy of non-interference.

Meanwhile, in Jaffna, the Tigers are still calling the shots. Bombing and strafing by helicopter gunships have reportedly killed over 1,000 Tamil civilians, but they have failed to break the LTTE stranglehold on the 17th century Dutch fort in Jaffna where over 200 Sri Lankan soldiers are trapped. Nor has the army been able to make much of an advance in the north. On the flip side, the LTTE has failed in its attempts to take over the fort.

President Ranasinghe Premadasa is once again talking of peace initiatives. Wijeratne, however, is in a belligerent mood. "How can we talk of peace when the LTTE goes around killing innocent Muslims and Sinhalese?"

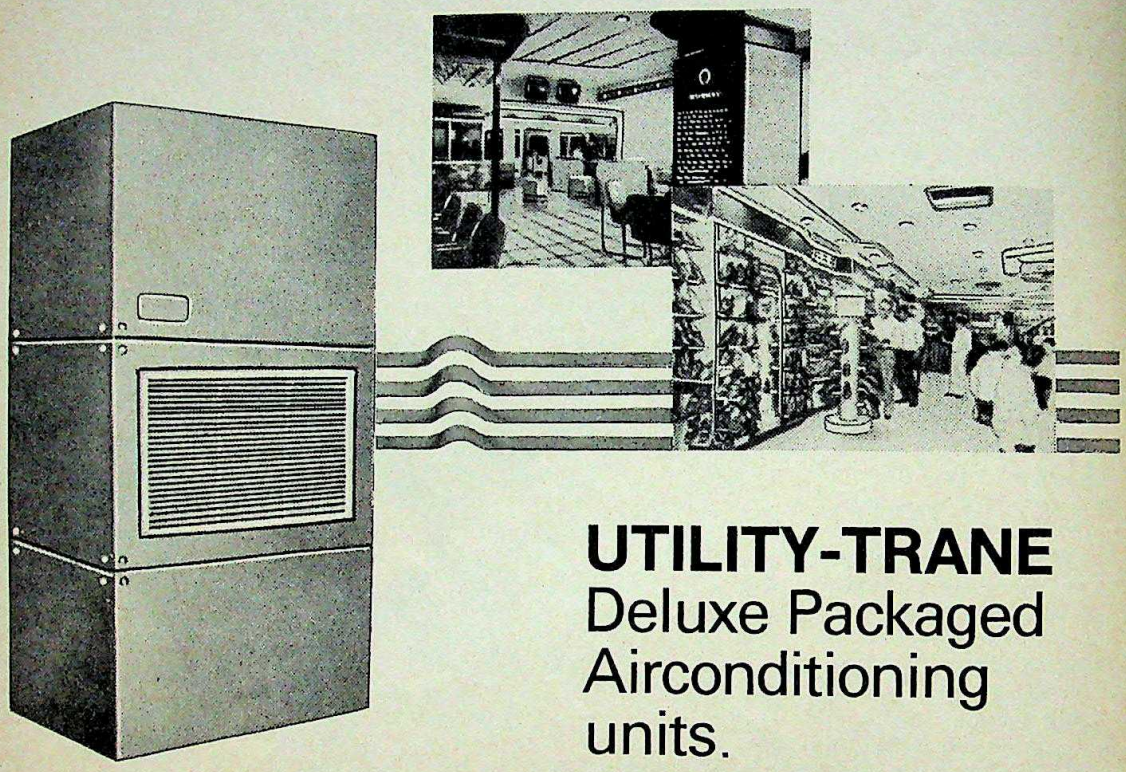
Sri Lanka's tragedy is only compounded by the rigidity of the warring sides and the minorities seem to have become expendable pawns.

—RAMESH MENON

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

In some of the coolest decisions taken we have had a hand.



UTILITY-TRANE
Deluxe Packaged Airconditioning units.

With Utility's access to the most advanced Trane technology, the features of the Utility-Trane packaged units are hard to match.

The factory-wired and tested units are rugged and super quiet. They assure more cooling while consuming less power as the condenser has a separate sub-cooling section. The Trane Hermetic Compressor, the heart of the packaged airconditioner is built to withstand voltage fluctuations of 342 to 456 volts. With modular construction, in split design to suit your space requirements packaged units are available in 5, 7.5, 10 & 15 ton capacities both for water and aircooled applications.

Our technical collaboration with Trane of USA - the World's No. 1 Company in airconditioning equipment gives us that all important edge over our competitors. Our product range of packaged units, reciprocating chillers to centrifugal machines offer a wide capacity range of 5 to 800 tonnes which are engineered to give you the best performance, reliability and the lowest noise levels. What's more, you save a lot on power. That's Trane technology for you.

Today, we are a 1000 strong team devoted to offering you a total package in airconditioning and refrigeration. Right from understanding your cooling needs to executing projects on a turnkey basis. Our network of branches spread across the country with full-fledged design and service centres, assures time-bound installations and prompt after-sales service. This is our strength.

All this has turned clients like SPIC, Mahindra & Mahindra, NTPC, SCOPE, JCT Electronics, Taj and Welcomgroup Hotels, Apollo Hospital, H.A.L., Uptron, Indian Rayon Corporation and ITC Ltd., to us for their most demanding solutions to their cooling problems.

TRANE

Utility

A new thrust - a new commitment

UTILITY ENGINEERS (INDIA) LTD.
16, Shopping Centre, Panchsheel Park, New Delhi-110017
Phones : 6437484 6437309 6438757 6436716
Grams : HEATBEAT, Telex : 031-61390-UEI-IN

BRANCHES : **Bombay** Tel : 6124770/6144993 **Calcutta** Tel : 435867/447932 **Ahmedabad** Tel : 405749/59 **Madras** Tel : 862593 **Bangalore** Tel : 361045/360580 **Secunderabad** Tel : 848970/843197 **Chandigarh** Tel : 43442 **Lucknow** Tel : 73503 **Jaipur** Tel : 75421 **Baroda** Tel : 324737

WORKS: 70th, Milestone, Village-Malpura, Distt. Rewari, Dharuhera, (Haryana), Ph. 2179, 2116, 2240.

graphisads/1429

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

The Literate Uneducated

GRASS WITHOUT ROOTS

By BUNKER ROY

I have a poster in my office which says, "Never let school interfere with your education." The difference between literacy and education is immediately noticeable in the rural areas of Bharat. Literacy is what is taught in government primary and middle schools—that too very badly. Education is what they receive and absorb at home. Since the ability to write still commands respect and they are generally held in awe, the literate man in the village is invariably arrogant, considers himself socially superior, enjoys abusing the written word for personal advancement even if it means breaking the law. It's a myth that the literate man is enlightened, broadminded, intelligent, willing to listen to reason and has common sense. The fact is that the highly literate people are unemployable in the rural areas: they do more harm than good.

We have seen doctors licenced to kill, poorly trained using lethal allopathic medicines following no code of ethics staffing the primary health centres and sub-dispensaries in villages; teachers using the written word as a tool for exploitation and encouraging social ills like dowry and untouchability in government run schools if you please; literate revenue officials not measuring land for the landless; engineers making roads that are not supposed to last more than a year; extension workers passing poor quality seeds. When 'literate' people set such fine examples of honesty and integrity why is it surprising when we see the rural poor staying away from all government delivery systems supposed to help the poor. The standard explanation—totally false—is that the rural poor are illiterate and primitive.

The Government calls these literate government functionaries change agents but their only purpose of being in the village is to maintain the status quo and their immediate family and caste do not suffer from the progressive ideas the Government may have of providing assets or power to the poor. He uses the written word to sabotage any move that may remotely threaten his social status and position in the village. The literate government functionary monitors the impact and selects the information that should reach the outside world. He, of course, presumes to speak on behalf of the whole village. Any development programme that does not further their self interest, that does not consolidate their hold on the poor and that is likely to hit at the refined system of patronage will never see the light of day: it is as simple as that.

It is the literate man representing the Government at the gram panchayat level who sees to it that funds do not reach the poor to the extent it should. Laws that the poor should know about are hidden from them—so lawyers may benefit. Loans and subsidies from village level cooperative societies are embezzled in crores every year by literate men in the name of the poor; salaries are drawn from non-existent schools by teachers; government supplies are used to generate private income by government doctors; land records are tampered with while land reforms continue on paper. Kindly note this is not a list of irregularities committed by primitive, ignorant and illiterate people in the village. This is the singular contribution of literate (but uneducated) experts and change agents to rural development.

If the rural poor do not want loans from the Government they are called ignorant. If they do not want land from the Government it is because they are backward. If they are not interested in getting electricity connections it is because they are illiterate. If they do not want any financial assistance for housing it is because they are primitive and need to be 'educated'. If they want to stick to traditional ways of farming they do not know what is good for them.

Illustration by AJIT NINAN

Employing highly literate people in rural areas does more harm than good.

The rural poor see the way the literate man has swindled the Government and wonder why no action is taken. They see intrigue, manipulation, harassment and it is because of these literate people that the poor are never free from hunger and fear. They see indifference, insensitivity and sheer callousness in the faces and actions of literate men and the poor cannot comprehend what is so special about reading and writing—if the final product turns out to be little better than animals. At the last rung of every delivery system where the buck stops is a degree or diploma holder who personifies the worst combination of greed, selfishness, nepotism, caste feelings and ambition to get on in life at the expense of others—while the few that are honest face ridicule.

It is an open question as far as the poor are concerned who is backward and who is primitive.

The author is Director, The Social Work & Research Centre, Tilonia, Rajasthan

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

People who make bikes and people who race bikes insist on

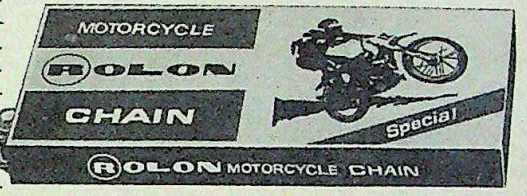
ROLON Special

Race riders. Men who take their bikes to the limits. And further. Manufacturers of motorcycles. Companies who aim for the best quality in their bikes. Both know the importance of fitting the right chain.

ROLON Special

The chain that takes the punishment of rallies and races. The chain that transmits maximum power to the rear wheel. The chain that upholds the reputation of a manufacturer for quality and reliability. The chain that is the largest exported and largest selling.

ROLON Special



LGB Manufactured by: L.G. Balakrishnan & Bros. Ltd.
Ganapathy, Coimbatore 641 006.

ROLON Special

Motorcycle Chain

Gurminder Singh at Sri Perumbudur

LARGEST SELLING PREMIUM BRAND CHAINS

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

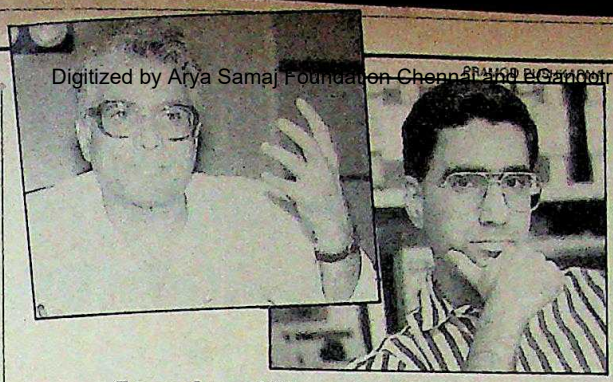
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

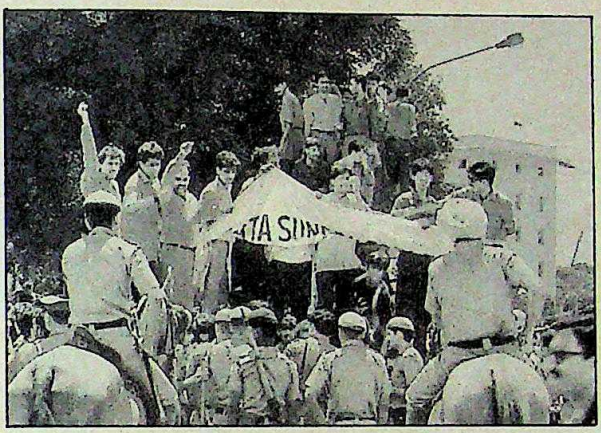
THE controversial *Khula Manch's* baptism by fire last month was just a trailer. This time the heat was on I&B Minister P. Upendra: the P stands for propaganda according to his detractors. Not only was the Opposition gunning for him, so was his colleague George Fernandes. Now Shastri Bhavan doesn't know what to do with its new baby rapidly turning into a little Frankenstein. The Government is considering three options: to allow HTV and host Karan Thapar one more chance, to ask HTV to drop Thapar whom Fernandes described as a "juvenile delinquent" or to just throw it all out, the baby with the bath water, that is. Feelers have gone out to independent producers to host the show. Nobody has grabbed the bait yet.

Apparently the programme was recorded just six days after HTV was given the green signal It could be that the minister felt that such a programme could give a further push to the Prasar Bharati Bill in the current session of Parliament. Both DD and HTV share the work, with editorial control and audience selection done by the former. But in the end whose baby is it? Who takes the blame?

IT'S not just *Khula Manch*, even Doordarshan has become a *Band Manch*. When the anti-reservations stir brought the capital to a standstill on August 24, the DD men stayed behind shut gates while the action took place literally at their doorstep on Parliament Street. They were afraid their cameras would get damaged. Later, a panic call went out to PTI-TV, located just opposite them, for footage of the stir. Somebody must have realised that DD would look foolish if it continued to blank out the anti-reservation movement. Very little, in fact, of the stir has been aired on DD.

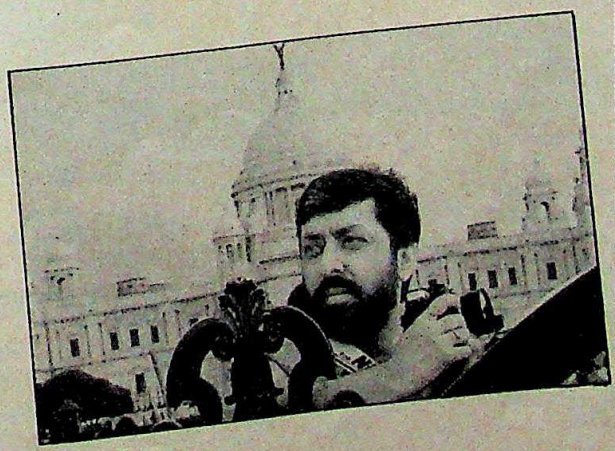


Fernandes and Thapar in *Khula Manch*



Anti-reservationists: scared silence

Razdan, Balsaver and Gupta in *Manzil*: glitzy soap



Sharma: portraits of directors

DOORDARSHAN'S trying to drop its country bumpkin image. The Devi Lal rural chic of farmers filling the small screen in serial after serial, not to say the barrage of *Sarson ka Sagas* from Punjab, haven't exactly set the ratings soaring. So, it's back to glitzy soap. High drama in high places returns with Sridhar Kshirsagar's well-made *Manzil*—really *Khandan* revisited. And the players evoke a sense of deja vu, with that touch of class: Neena Gupta—once again at her neurotic best—Dr Sriram Lagoo, Mohan Bhandari, Vivek Vaswani.

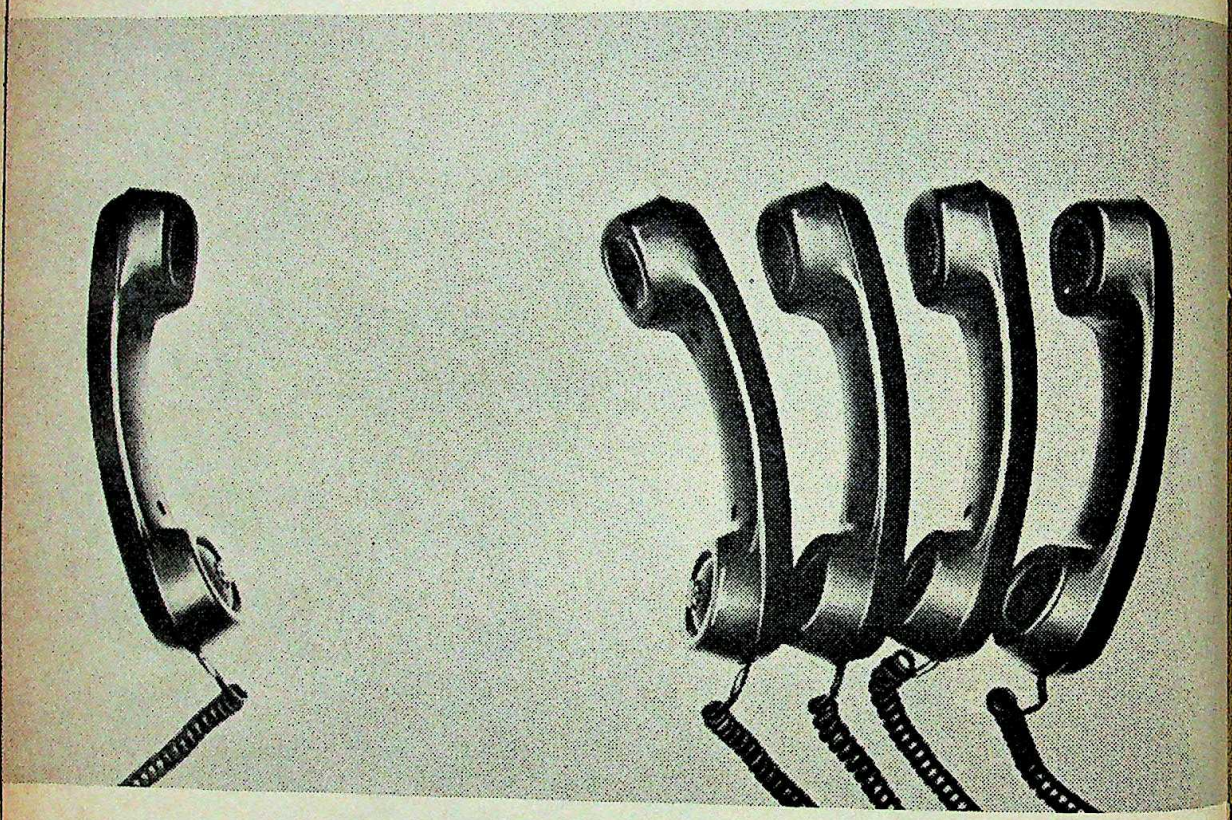
Nobody was more surprised than the director himself when the *Portrait of the Director* series was aired. Ramesh Sharma, of *New Delhi Times* fame, who rose to prominence on TV during the brief spring of glasnost under Bhaskar Ghose was banished by K.K. Tewary from the small screen for his bold *Focus* programmes like *Opposition Unity* and *Police Revolt in Gujarat*. Sharma has been resurrected after an absence of two years. But only just: troubles with his producer resulted in a truncated series. Only the episodes on Ritwik Ghatak, Shyam Benegal, Mrinal Sen, Raj Kapoor, Manmohan Desai and Bimal Roy remain out of the original 13. Satyajit Ray, Guru Dutt, Mehboob Khan, Adoor Gopalakrishnan and others had to be dropped. However some nuggets remain: Dimple Kapadia's screen test for *Ram Teri Ganga Maili* which Raj Kapoor rejected, and Kapoor singing in the Russian countryside, feeding Nargis grapes.

—MADHU JAIN

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

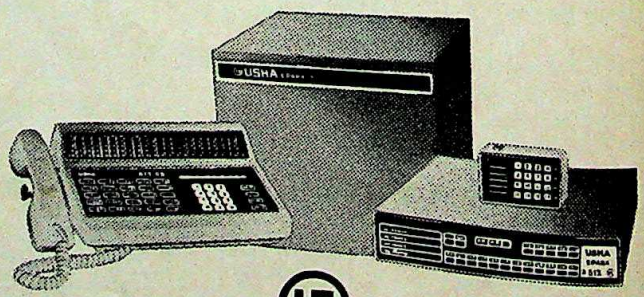
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

How to cope when you have too many to communicate!



Business communication. The very nerve of your organisation. And you just can't afford to ignore its importance specially when timely communication is linked with efficiency and hence to productivity.

But unfortunately you are still stuck up with an operating machine that is so helpless to cope up to your growing need of communication. Do not stand helpless. You have USHA EPABX System. Compact, Solid-State, with 1 to 100 lines it is highly capable to cope up when you have as much to communicate. P&T approved, economical and reliable. With a Corporate clientele crossing 500. USHA EPABX, in every way, the very right choice.



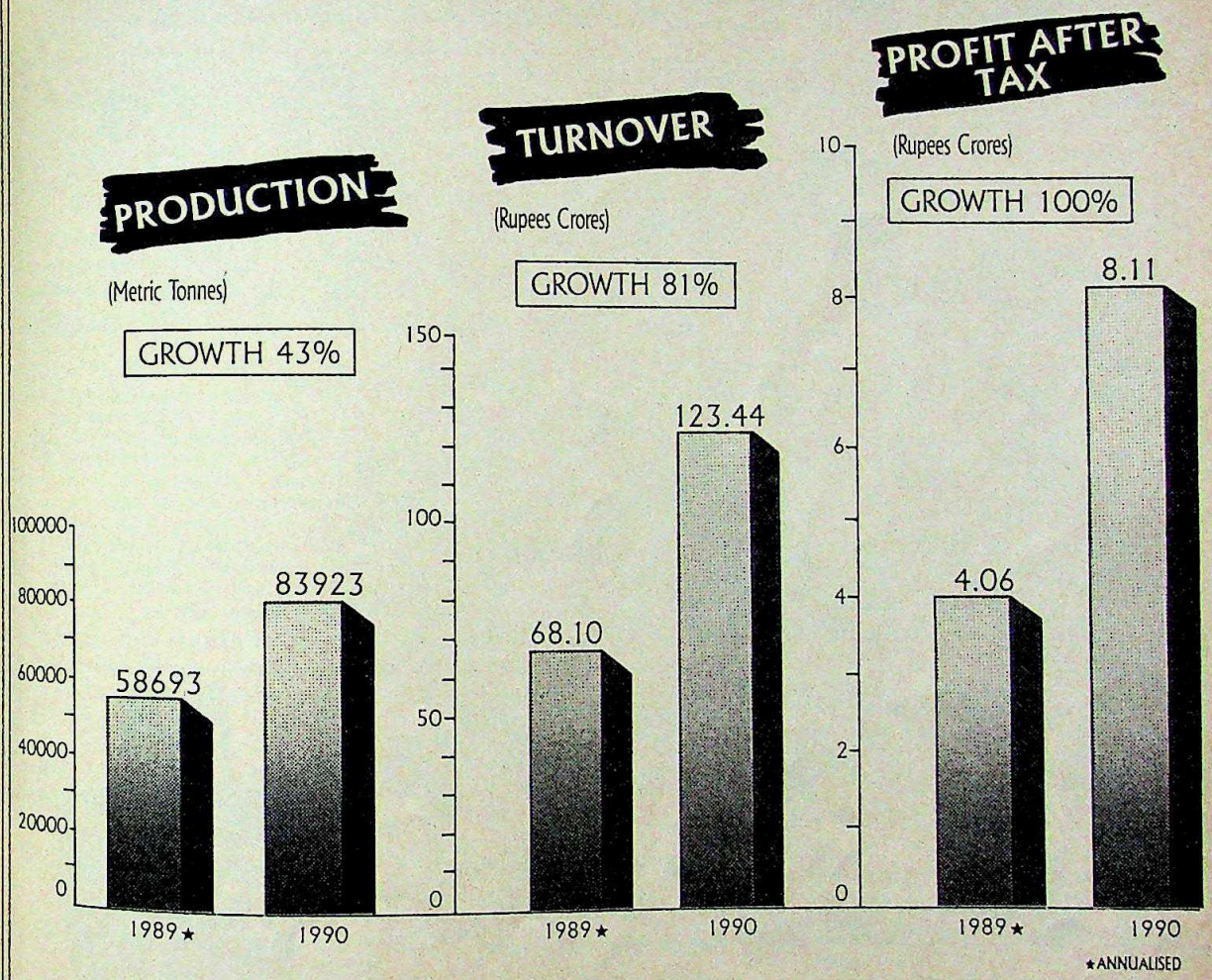
USHA ELECTRONICS

Thapar Chambers, 2nd Floor, Opposite Kalindi Colony,
Ring Road, New Delhi-110 065.
Phones : 6847766, 6847767, 6847768
Grams : "USHACOM" Telex : 031-75172 Fax : 6847769

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

GROWTH THROUGH PEOPLE, PRODUCTIVITY AND QUALITY.



BHADRACHALAM SCALES NEW PEAKS IN 1989-'90.

A decade of:

relentless effort and hard work
sustained pursuit of productivity and quality
unremitting thrust on contemporary technology
cost-effective energy and raw material management
innovative product development
abiding commitment to customer
and true concern for people.

IN TUNE WITH TECHNOLOGY.
IN HARMONY WITH NATURE.

BHADRACHALAM PAPERBOARDS LIMITED

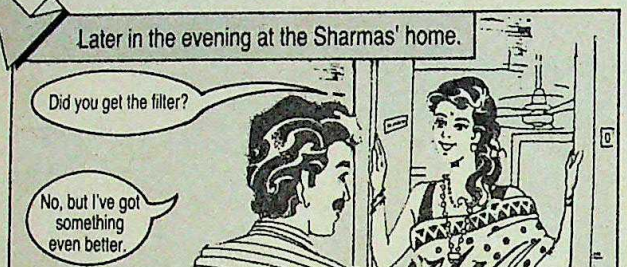
An enterprise promoted by I.T.C. Limited
106, S.P. ROAD, SECUNDERABAD-500 003.
PH. No.: 846566 to 846573. FAX: 842997

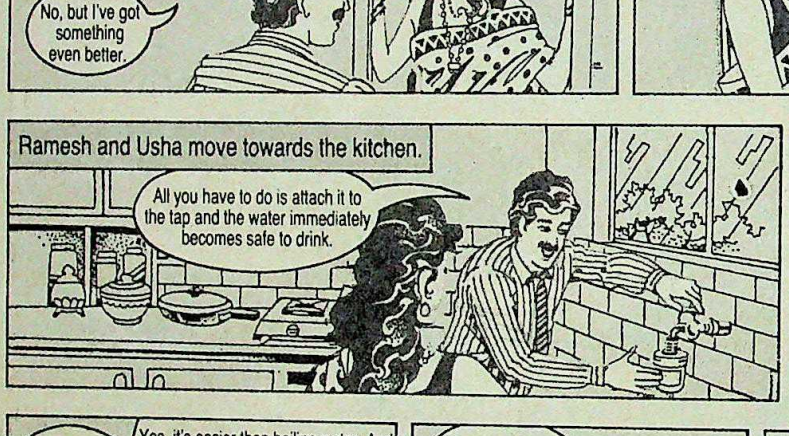
TIME & SPACE 2034-8 90

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

The Sharmas' GOOD HEALTH discovery.





Zero-B is more than a filter. Zero-B's halogenated resin technology uses iodine as a purification medium, which eliminates disease-causing bacteria - on contact. Water does not get recontaminated for several hours thereafter. Leading scientific laboratories in India and abroad have tested and certified the effectiveness of Zero-B. Good health value for Rs. 144.75* only.
** Local taxes extra.*

Ion Exchange (India) Ltd.

Consumer Products Division,
10, Bengal Chemical Compound, 502, Veer Savarkar Marg,
Prabhadevi, Bombay - 400 025.

Not only a filter...
A purifier too.

Available at leading stores, chemists and appliance shops.

AUTHORISED DISTRIBUTORS: BOMBAY: Hasmukh Agency, Tel: 4221815, Hasmukh Enterprises, Tel: 5139418, Hasmukh Sales Agency, Tel: 468371, Mona Agencies, Tel: 4946150, 4941570, Marcfare Agencies, Tel: 6429319, Silverline Enterprises, Tel: 6148662. **THANE:** Apollo Medical Stores, Tel: 502374. **DOMBIVLI (W):** Mahajan Medical Agency. Vishnu Nagar. **KALYAN:** Karachi Medical Agency, Tel: 26082. **PUNE:** Sha Vithaldas Sakalchand, Tel: 445525. **NAGPUR:** Nareshchandra & Co., Tel: 25333, 22023. **NASIK** Kikabhai A. Rangwala, Tel: 72925, 74747. **AURANGABAD:** Nitin Agencies, Tel: 25612, 27612. **KOLHAPUR:** Varsha Sales & Service, Tel: 20960. **GOA:** Golden Goa Distributors, Tel: 6727. **AHMEDABAD:** Arpit Traders, Tel: 78778, 79778, Chunilal Mayachand Mehta, Tel: 408371/72. **SURAT:** Megha Enterprises, Tel: 54288. **JAIPUR:** Radiant Associates, Tel: 63580. **DELHI:** The Empire Electricals, Tel: 235924. **AGRA:** Camex India, Tel: 72670. **CHANDIGARH:** Chancellor Marketing Pvt. Ltd., Sector 35-C. **LUCKNOW:** Unique Marketing Services, Tel: 246561. **BARODA:** Reliance Sales Corporation, Tel: 550728, Trilok Traders, G.P.O. Lane. **RAJKOT:** Vinay Trading Company, Tel: 26634, Kothari Agencies, Tel: 22784. **BHOPAL:** Omnitech, Tel: 63595. **INDORE:** B.R. Agencies, Tel: 38085. **RAIPUR:** Surana Enterprise, Tel: 24603, 23909. **JABALPUR:** Shah Bros., Tel: 21162. **HYDERABAD:** Anil Enterprises, Tel: 236678. **BANGALORE:** Premnanda Enterprises, Tel: 260711, Rajalakshmi Marketing Co., Tel: 269751. **MYSORE:** Sudhir Electronics, Tel: 30637. **MANGALORE:** Winsome Sales Corporation, Tel: 31995. **BELGAUM:** Veejal Enterprises, Tel: 32992. **HUBLI:** Srikant Agencies, Tel: 63079. **MADRAS:** Balaji Enterprises, Tel: 842819; Nityas, Tel: 477852. **MADURAI:** Anantha Agencies, Tel: 31118. **TRICHY:** Sri Arun Agencies. Tel: 34178. **SALEM:** Mahalingam Agencies, Tel: 53894. **COCHIN:** Hoppes & Company, Tel: 354048. **CUTTACK:** Macins, Tel: 22939, 30253.

Karishma/ION/85/2821 R3

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

IVORY POACHING

Elephantine Disaster

Poachers push the elephant towards near extinction

JUST a decade ago, wildlife sanctuaries in south India were host to herds of wandering elephants. No longer. Today, visitors to Kerala's lush green Periyar wildlife sanctuary—where tuskers were once the main attraction—can spend a month without sighting a single one.

Tuskers, once as synonymous with south India as idli and dosa, are a seriously endangered species. The reason: greedy poachers on the rampage. The figures are alarming: according to a study by R. Sukumar of the Centre for Ecological Sciences, around 100 to 150 tuskers were shot annually during the '80s in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala. With the worldwide ban on the ivory trade this year, prices of illegal elephant tusks have shot up; a pair of average-sized tusks can get as much as Rs 30,000.

Worse, poachers have only been targeting male elephants (the female Asiatic elephant doesn't grow tusks). Consequently, female elephants far outnumber the males. A study by wildlife researchers, P.V. Nair and K. Balasubramaniam indicates that the sex ratio in the Idduki forests of Kerala stands at an abysmal 1:152.

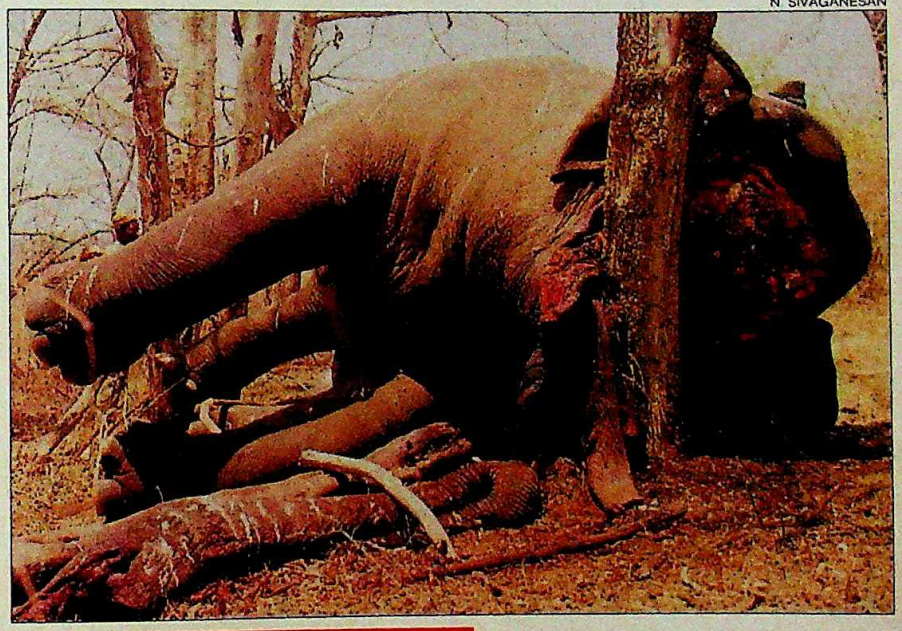
Tragically, with most large tuskers—with tusks weighing between 20 kg and 40 kg—having been exterminated, poachers are now resorting to shooting young pachyderms, whose tusks weigh as little as 3 kg. Among the 13 tuskers poached three years ago in Tamil Nadu's Mudumalai sanctuary, many were just four to five years old. Says conservationist E.R.C. Davidar: "Without any tuskers left poachers even kill two-year-olds with 6 inch tusks."

One reason for the large-scale poaching is the extreme poverty among people living in the forests. Apparently, they can be lured for as little as Rs 100 and cheap liquor to help track tuskers. Says S. Parmeshwarappa, principal chief conservator of forests, Karnataka: "The tragedy of wildlife management is that ecological degradation is linked to rural poverty."

The fact that many forest guards are bribed to help the poachers makes it more difficult. Thus, even though foresters caught Jose Vattakunnel, a poacher, with two pairs of tusks in Wynad forest, all that was left of the evidence was ashes. Vattakunnel could only be fined Rs 250 on charges of illegal possession of tusks. Locals in the Parambikulam-Anamalai-Udumalapet belt say at least 25 elephants have been shot in the area over the last few years. But the records don't show anything. In one case, Karnataka forest guards seized a pair of tusks from Abdullah, a poacher, who led them to the putrefying remains. But when the Tamil Nadu forest officials were informed, they refused to book the case.

A mauled elephant: hunted species

N. SIVAGANESAN



After killing most of the adult males, poachers are now targeting even two-year-old elephants.

Aware that the problem has assumed alarming dimensions, the Government is planning a Rs 135 crore-Project Elephant, worked along the lines of Project Tiger. Says V. Krishnamoorthy, a well-known veterinary doctor: "Project Elephant can undo a lot of damage. The elephant population is still healthy and can breed well if taken care of."

But before Project Elephant gets under way, other measures are being taken to contain poaching. Forest officials have been given additional arms. They have also been given two forest guards, on an average, to police an area of 40 sq km. So far, in Karnataka, 1,000 villagers have already been hired as "elephant watchers". In Kerala's Pattanamthitta and Mallapuram, 27 forest stations (like police stations) have been set up to check the movements of poachers.

Meanwhile, the surviving elephants are turning violent as their natural habitat is being destroyed. With 11,060 hectares of the 34,444-hectare Wynad sanctuary having been converted into commercial plantations, elephants have been deprived of their main source of food. As a result, they are taking to crop raiding and ravaging human settlements. Villagers on the Tamil Nadu-Andhra Pradesh border have even resorted to laying high voltage lines to stop elephants. Dr Krishnamoorthy is still haunted by the memory of the 35 post mortems he did of electrocuted elephants. Trapped between the poachers and panicky villagers, the Indian elephant seems to be lumbering towards oblivion.

—RAMESH MENON

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

This is how crowded it can get at Binsar during peak tourist season

Binsar. A tiny, half-forgotten, out-of-the-way place where hardly anyone goes. Where life moves on at an unhurried pace and people still have the time to stop and chat. Nestled in thick oak and rhododendron woods, Binsar is just 30 kms from Almora, which is about 9 hrs run from Delhi by road. The nearest rail-head is Kathgodam. From Almora you could take a bus or even trek up to Binsar and stay at the comfortable 40-bedded tourist bungalow, with a-la-carte restaurant service. Surrounded by the views of the snowy peaks, Binsar offers a feast for the eyes.

Close by is Kausani, a scenic spot eulogised by poets and philosophers — so close to the Trishul-Nanda Devi range that you feel you could touch the snows.

Jageshwar, one of the 12 Jyotir Lingas of Shiva; Baijnath, a picturesque town dotted with Shikhar style temples; Katarmal, a celebrated picnic spot with a unique sun temple and Bageshwar, famous for the Bagnath temple and old sculptures, are some of the places to visit during your stay at Binsar.

So for your next holiday, get off the beaten track — head for Binsar. And discover the U.P. hardly anyone knows about.

U.P. Tourism
Chandralok Building, 36 Janpath
New Delhi-110 001. Ph.: 3322251

Also at:
Ahmedabad: Ph: 464318, Bombay: Ph: 215458
Calcutta: Ph: 207855, Chandigarh: Ph: 41649
Lucknow: Ph: 246205, Madras: Ph: 479726

HOLIDAY WONDERLAND UTTAR PRADESH

F.N/XIII-828

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

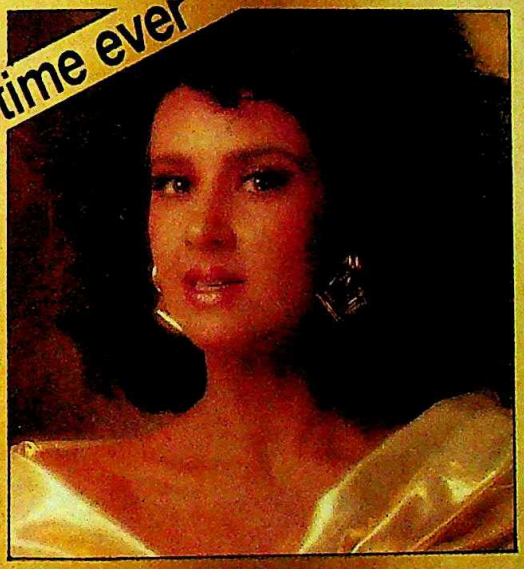
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

BAGPIPER GOLD

PRESENTS A SONG AND DANCE EXTRAVAGANZA

THE SHARON SPECTACULAR

First time ever



India's singing sensation live on stage in a series of show stoppers from her latest albums by Music India titled "Blow Your Mind" and "Jhoom Jawani".

Soon in your city

Delhi 8.9.90 • Madras 6.10.90
Lucknow 12.10.90 • Calcutta 21.10.90
Bombay 27.10.90

Directed by ALYQUE PADAMSEE
Dances specially choreographed by SHIAMAK DAVAR

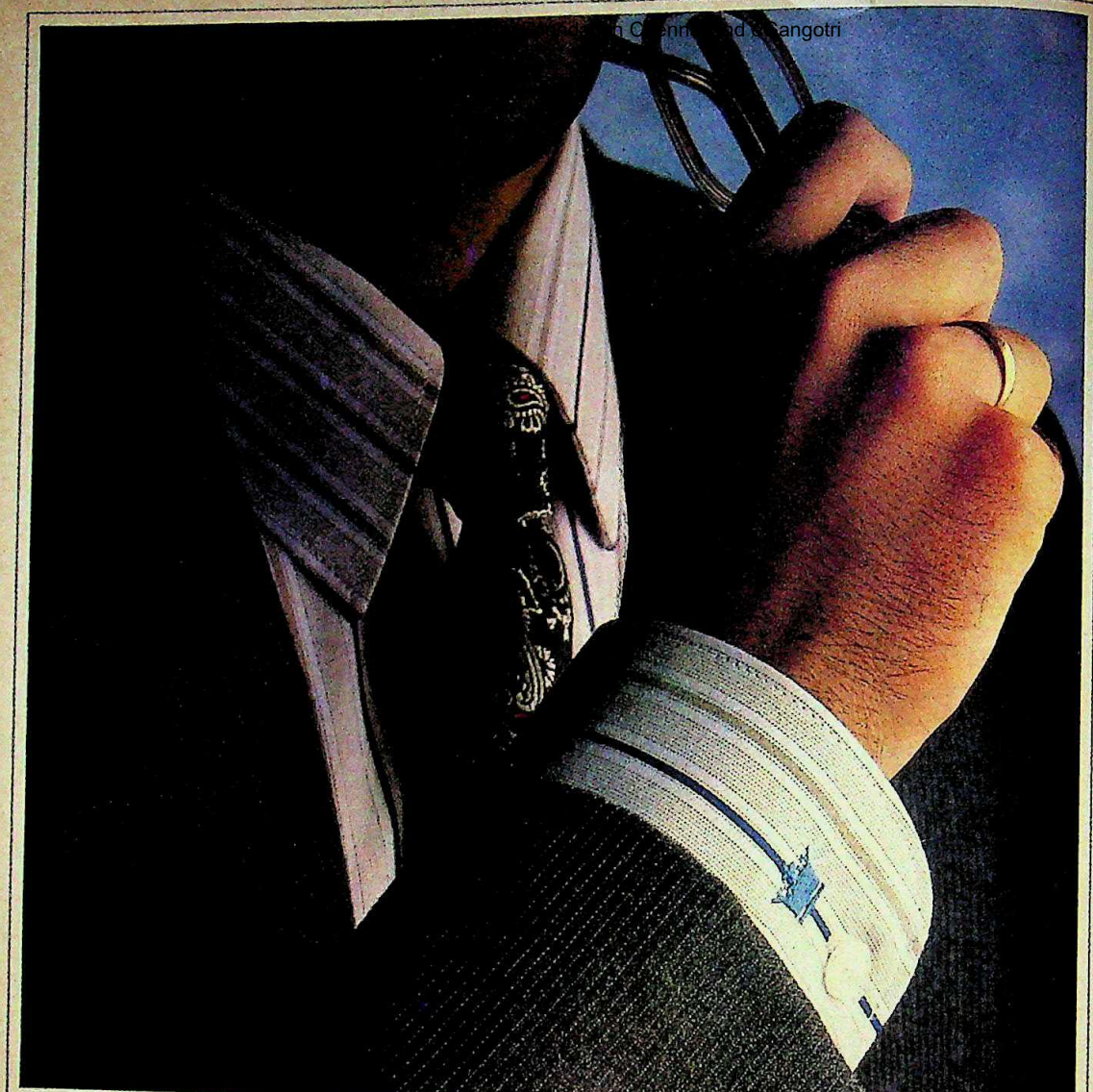
HERBERTSONS LIMITED

In association with
MIL MUSIC INDIA

F.N/XIII-829

everest/90/HL/278

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



The upper crest

The crest says it all.
Immaculate cut. Relentless stripes.
Designs of a higher order.
Louis Philippe. The international
signature of success.

Your ultimate credential

Louis Philippe
SIGNED DESIGNERWEAR

Premium shirts, trousers and accessories

Louis Philippe is a designer label of The British Van Heusen Co. Ltd. Brought to you by Madura Coats.

Louis Philippe Exclusive Showrooms at: AHMEDABAD: G7 Amar Chamber, Near Swastik Char Rasta, Navrangpura. **BANGALORE:** Davidoss Building, Commercial Street. **BOMBAY:** India House No.2, Kemps Corner. **COCHIN:** North End, M.G. Road. **NEW DELHI:** F-43, South Extension 1. **MADRAS:** Rani Seethai Hall, Opp. Anna Flyover. Opening shortly at: **COIMBATORE:** Whiteways Arcade, D.B. Road. **CALCUTTA:** Park Street.

Louis Philippe Dress Circle Stores: **MADRAS:** Julia Frame, Alsa Mall, Egmore. **CALCUTTA:** Orly Collection, Upper Wood Street.

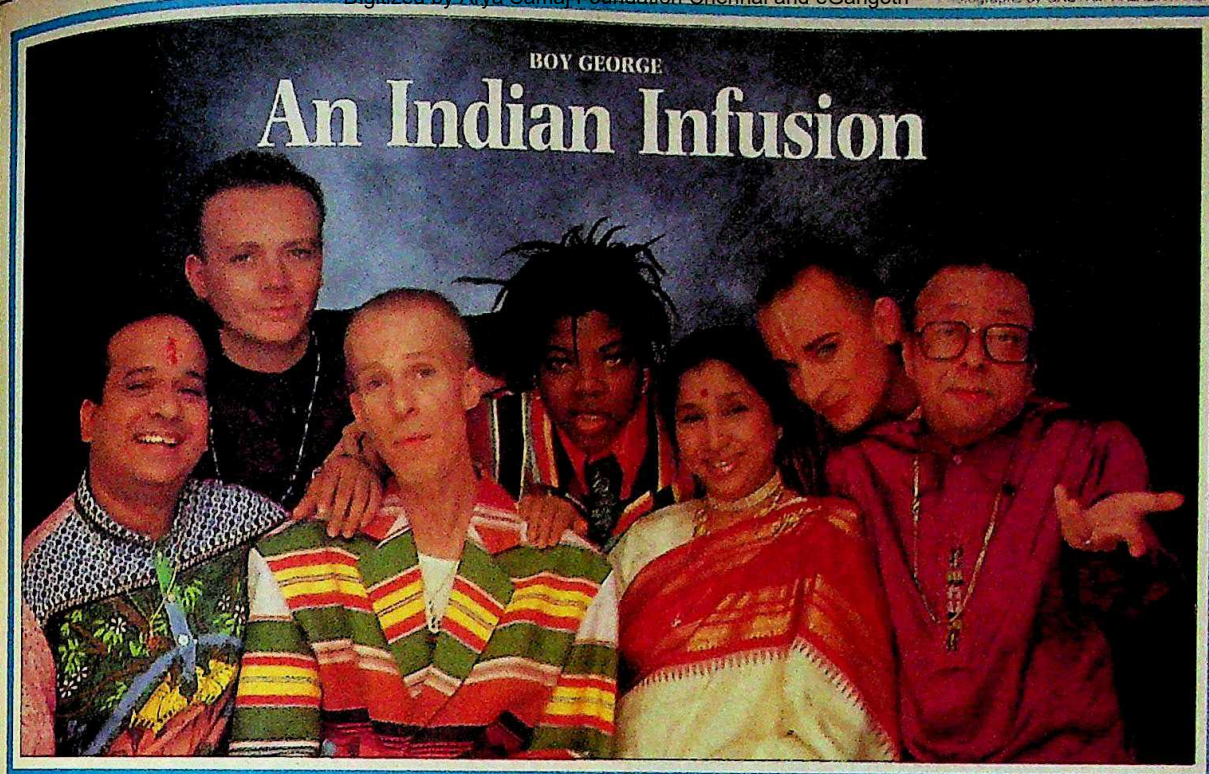
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Photographs by GAUTAM RAJADHYAKSHA

BOY GEORGE

An Indian Infusion



The Boy George brigade hopes to create fresh fusion music and catapult Asha Bhonsle to international pop stardom.

FROM a Bombay beachhouse on the edge of the sea last fortnight, strains of some funky, fusion music reach across. Within sits Boy George, the androgynous Liberace of the pop world, next to Stephen Luscombe who's going berserk on his synthesiser creating a new song with percussionist Pandit Dinesh. Nearby, Sultan Khan has just completed a soulful *bandish* on the sarangi in Raag Kedar while Asha Bhonsle and Jamaican jazz singer Hope Augustus make mental notes about the right pitch to strike. What's emerging from this cacophonous brigade is a new fusion album, tentatively titled *Ek Nervous Breakdown*, which aims to transform the Indian pop scene.

But it's been a lot of hard work. Pandit Dinesh and Stephen Luscombe of the West India Company have put together an unlikely combination of musicians to create an album they're confident will be a chartbuster. The company, formed in 1985, already has two albums to boast of including the cult single, *Ave Maria*, and *New Demons*, a soundtrack for a Canadian dance film. And now they're all set to catapult Asha Bhonsle into international pop stardom. The team has been at it since May, writing songs, creating tunes, rejecting what doesn't work out, and mixing diverse instruments to create a kind of concoction only the country which thrives on curry can be proud of.

Fusions, of course, are not new: from George Harrison to Boy George, the tradition has been long and illustrious. Harrison came to Ravi Shankar, learnt sitar, even used it in the now-famous *Norwegian Wood*. Ravi Shankar then performed with orchestras and individual masters creating classical fusion, a trend later refined by L. Subramaniam. Then Zakir Husain got together with Larry Coryell, John McLaughlin, L. Shankar and L. Subramaniam creating music under the banner, Shakti. And now comes Boy George making music along with Asha Bhonsle.

But their experiment in fusion seems to be of a special blend. Dubbed by them as a "pencil sketch of Indian music", there is an evocative *stuti* for Lord Ganesha with soul singing, a Nepali folk number with the synthesisers going wild, a kitschy take-off on an Abba hit, even a folk number straight out of coastal fishermen's music. Says Simon Dring, executive producer of the project: "It's surprising that Indian music, which has such wonderful melody and rhythm, hasn't been more accessible to the West at the popular level."

West India Company has set out to remedy just that. "For years the West has only heard arranged, synthesised pop music. We want them to hear the wild melodies they haven't heard before," says writer and keyboard player Peter Culshaw. Indian influences are predominant on the group. Synthesiser wizard Luscombe grew up not far from London's Karol Bagh—Southall—and loved Hindi film music. Culshaw got converted to Indian music after a hypnotic spell listening to the Dagar brothers. And Boy George practises chanting Buddhist mantras and is an acknowledged Krishna admirer (*see interview*). In fact, the first thing he did on arriving in India last fortnight was to visit ISKCON's Hare Krishna temple. And despite the trappings of modern music, when he joins Asha Bhonsle in the devotional chants in *Jai Ganesha*, the song acquires an ethereal, spiritual quality with the clinking of bells and sounds of tabla; a far cry from *Karma Chameleon* or *It's a miracle*, two pathbreaking Boy George numbers during his days with Culture Club. Says Bhonsle: "I found him enthu-

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

"Brilliant reproduction, vibrant colou nsist
week after we onth

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Consistent print quality– week after month...What's the secret?

Inks with a zest for life. With colour stamina. Well-bred to perform. This is what Coates offers the Publications industry. Colour standard. Product excellence. Service. Plus the support of Research & Development worldwide. Letter Press or Offset. Sheetfed or webs. Coldset or Heatset, Coates inks keep pace with requirements and offer excellence as a way of life. The next time you admire the quality of reproduction, richness of colours and designs, you'll know that Coates has once again made its humble contribution.

COATES OF INDIA LIMITED

Transport Depot Road, Calcutta 700 088.

COATES APPEAL. NOTHING ELSE CAN MATCH IT

Mudra : Cal : CIL : 0390

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

siastic, receptive. It was easy to persuade him to work on an album together."

The band has a zany mix, a kind of eclecticism that's daring. Joining film music director, R.D. Burman, and his 60-member film orchestra are classical stalwarts like Sultan Khan on the sarangi, Shiv Kumar Sharma on the santoor, Zarine Daruwala on the sarod, and Janardhan Abhyankar on the tabla tarang. One song, *Jai shri suta mahesh*, has the influence of Raag Kedar and another draws on Bhopali. Yet another song is strongly marked by Basant Bahar.

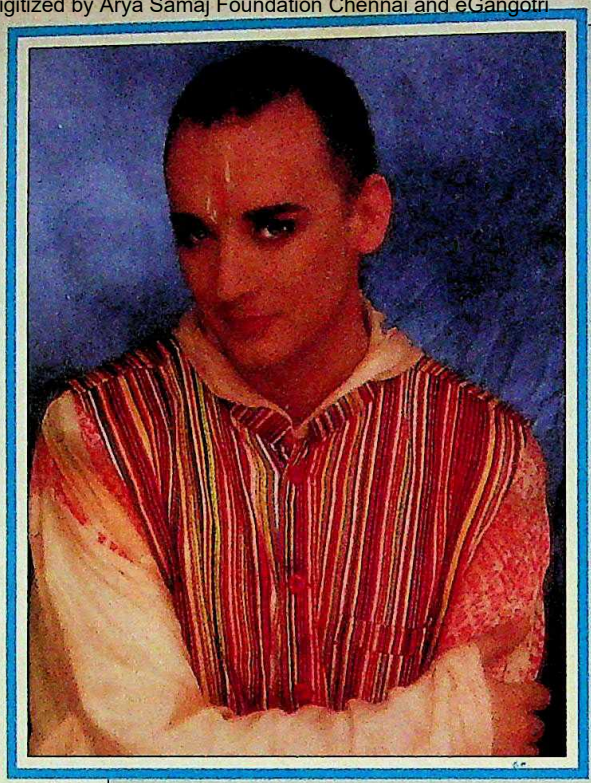
The team insists what they're creating is not an Indian goulash. Luscombe says that what they are doing may sound wild but it works brilliantly. Adds Culshaw: "What's contrived is what you hear in Bombay's film music—we're post-eclectic." In fact, some of West India Company's tunes have already found their way into Hindi film songs. They claim Bappi Lahiri lifted a tune from their album, *Night country*, and Pandit Dinesh claims authorship of the tune of *Mujhe neend na aaye*, the hit from the film *Dil*. Says Culshaw: "Imitation is a form of flattery and a sign of desperation."

West India Company hopes their experience will become a trend-setter for other western groups. Pandit Dinesh expresses surprise that western musicians have not yet come to India to record. The quality of artistes and recording is excellent, he says. Dring adds: "Maybe it is innate western snobbery. But I can't think of a better way of spending a month than lying on the beaches of Bombay and doing a couple of good songs."

The India-bug has infected them quite deeply. They're already planning a music video which they propose to shoot in India later this year. Then there will be live concerts early next year to launch the album. Also on the cards is a Hindi film to be made with Shekhar Kapur.

Meanwhile, one windswept Bombay beachhouse continues to vibrate with sounds which may not go into history as something eternal but are certain to acquire a cult-like following. Move over, *Hawa Hawai*, *Oye Oye* and *Jumma Chumma*. By George, they're out to create some unusual music.

—SALIL TRIPATHI



INTERVIEW

"India really intrigues me"

AT 29, Boy George (born George O'Dowd) doesn't look boyish any more, though his voice still carries the vibrant pitch one associates with adolescents. A man who for seven years kept his body and soul together by visiting Hare Krishna temples for the free food, he has definitely moved on in life. He is soon to sign up Jagdeep Singh, a London-based Indian soul singer, for his new album. Last fortnight, in Bombay, Boy George took time off between recordings to talk to Senior Correspondent SALIL TRIPATHI. *Excerpts:*

Q. *Do you believe in the Hare Krishna Movement?*

A. I'm not a devotee, but there is a lot of good energy around them which I like. I also like the way Lord Krishna looks. There is a lot of joy around him, none of the repressiveness of Catholicism.

Q. *Will you do more for the Krishna cult?*

A. I lead a very material life, but a part of my recording money will go to the ISKCON food programme.

Q. *What's most striking about India?*

A. I know a lot of people are hardened to it, but it is still a shock to see the poverty here.

Q. *Have you seen Salaam Bombay?*

A. Yes, I've even met the kids from the film. I really like India. It intrigues me. I feel an affinity with it which I don't for England. We have the American disease now with hamburger joints popping up everywhere.

Q. *How has working with Asha Bhonsle been?*

A. Great. She's so casual. I met her four years ago at a hellish pub in England but she didn't seem to mind the atmosphere. She isn't pseudo-sophisticated at all.

Q. *Have you met a lot of these pseudo-sophisticated Indians?*

A. Oh yes, at parties. They're all dressed up as if they are in some other country. It is so unreal.

Q. *Is there a lot of Indian music in the UK?*

A. We live next to each other but don't know anything about the other. We're together but apart. This album will try to bridge that.

Q. *What do you think of Indian pop stars?*

A. Well, Alisha has some kitsch value. I've even heard your film music. It is interesting how they do a 12-minute song at a time. And I love Kishore Kumar's yodelling.

Q. *Do you miss being mobbed in India?*

A. Not at all. I want people to take me seriously as an artiste, but with my lipstick on.

Q. *But why is the lipstick so important?*

A. I have been trapped by the way I look. It is something personal. This exterior—of lipstick and makeup—was a part of me even before I began to sing. Why should I change it? I'm just a particular type of an English eccentric freak.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

BPL

India sings, watches, talks, diagnoses, copies and computes with BPL.

25 YEARS IN PURSUIT OF PERFECTION

It's electronics everywhere. And a lot of it is from BPL.

Entertaining millions with its TVs, VCRs and Two-in-Ones. Saving lives with Electrocardiographs and Intensive Coronary Care Units. Running offices efficiently with Electronic PABXs, Push Button Telephones, Communication Networks, Plain Paper Copiers and Computers... With a promise of more to come: Cordless Telephones, Rice Cookers, Microwave Ovens, Dish Washers, Vacuum Cleaners, Washing Machines, Refrigerators...

BPL. Building expertise in electronics to bring you the best things in life.

BPL

IN PURSUIT OF PERFECTION

Computers • Communication • Components • Instrumentation (Industrial, Medical & Measurement) • Office Automation • Consumer Electronics

Rs. 450 crores turnover • 40 products • 1,000,000 square feet of built-up factory space • Over 4000 employees • 4 R & D Centres • 26 Sales & Service Centres • 2500 dealers • Exclusive technical arrangement with Sanyo of Japan

Mudra:Blr:BPL:290:90

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

A winner all the way

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Amrit Banaspati Co. Ltd. A single product company in 1940, it has grown in the past 50 years to become a large group consisting of 3 companies producing a wide range of consumer products. The annual turnover of Amrit Banaspati Co. itself is over Rs. 250 crores today.

50 Years Of Great Going

The products of the Amrit Group are not only popular household names, but brand leaders in their respective fields: *Gagan* vanaspati, *Ginni* groundnut and cottonseed oils, *Uncle Chipps'* potato wafers, *Big Sipp* and *Golden Glow* soya milk health products, as well as newsprint and writing papers from non-conventional raw materials.

Every time one more of our products becomes a best seller, we feel our consumers have given us a medal. And over the years, we have won may such medals !

Great Plans For The Future

Amrit Banaspati Company is constantly exploring new avenues for diversification. At the same time it is striving to improve its existing range through new technologies and modernisation of plants and machinery.

Whereas the consumer is foremost in the company's mind we are equally conscious of the importance and welfare of our shareholders, employees and dealers.

We aren't just resting on our achievements of the last 50 years, but striving to be even better.

50 YEARS OF

AMRIT BANASPATI CO.LTD.
GREAT YEARS. GREAT GOING.

Amrit Banaspati Co. Ltd.

(Amrit Paper • Amrit International)

Amrit Agro Industries Ltd. • Amrit Protein Foods Ltd.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

FX-3 SUPER 2000

The top-seller, worldwide.

They call it the No.1. Because it's so versatile.
The camera for the hobby photographer.
Also the camera for the budding professional.
The 1/2000th second shutter speed
lets you try your hand at fast action shots.
The zoom lens gives your portraits that extra punch.

If you're considering a camera you can
be proud of, consider the FX-3 SUPER 2000.

It's got to be

YASHICA

KYOCERA CORPORATION, Optical Equipment Division, 27-8, 6-chome Jingumae, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150, Japan
"YASHICA" is a trademark of KYOCERA CORPORATION.

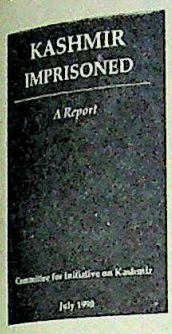
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

CIVIL RIGHTS BODIES

Errors And Omissions

Reports on human rights abuse are skewed



TRUTH is invariably the first casualty in any strife-torn region. And Kashmir is no exception. An inevitable fallout of the war for the Valley has been a war over truth—a war over whether human rights have been abused. On the one hand there are daily reports churned out on white government stationery extolling the 'successes' of the security forces. On the other there are sombre volumes released by civil liberty groups reeling out lists of alleged atrocities.

The truth, as always, lies somewhere along the grey areas in-between. Both the security forces and the militants are, in fact, guilty of excesses against the common Kashmiri.

While the reports by civil liberty groups, such as the People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL), Citizens for Democracy and the newly-formed Committee for Initiative on Kashmir, have reams on the alleged atrocities by security forces, they have ignored the militants' excesses. While they have stressed the hardships faced by Kashmiri Muslims they have underplayed the migration of the 90,000-odd Kashmiri Pandits from the Valley. Even though it is the largest migration in the country after independence it is dismissed as right wing propaganda. Says Home Minister Mufti Mohammed Sayeed: "They cannot explain the victims of terrorism."

Enquiries in Srinagar revealed that in the last seven months alone militants have killed over 350 persons, excluding 55 security personnel. Over the same period they have also kidnapped as many as 102 persons. In addition, a number of torture cases have also been officially documented.

Among the gruesome examples:

► On March 1, two plainclothes Jammu & Kashmir Armed Police constables, Mohammed Ashaq and Ram Paul, stationed at Safakadal police station, were abducted by terrorists, beaten, given electric shocks and their skin pulled by pliers.

► On June 18, Romesh Kumar Bhat, a resident of Shopian, was kidnapped by terrorists and tortured.

► Militants also used a new form of brutality. Bashir Ahmed Khan of Wantpora locality, a suspected informer, was abducted, tortured and released with an explosive device tied to his body. This 'human bomb' was then publicly detonated.

However, none of these incidents have been recorded by the civil liberty groups. Most of their reports confine themselves to condemning the acts of the subversives in a single paragraph, without mentioning any specific instances. Justifies Suhasini Mulay, a film maker and a member of the all-women team that investigated human right violations in Kashmir in June: "There will always be fanatical groups which may indulge in torture. We are only concerned with the problem of the state machinery (the security forces) resorting to unlawful action."

Moreover, these reports concentrate on the post-January 19, 1990 period—the day Governor's rule was

Police chase away demonstrators

SHARAD SAXENA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Who wouldn't want to earn upto 10.94%* interest on his monthly savings instead of the usual 5%?

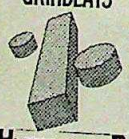
The ANZ Grindlays Hi-Performance Savings Account offers upto 10.94%*. Not just 5% that an ordinary Savings Account offers. Plus the freedom to withdraw upto 75% against your accumulated monthly savings. Anytime. By cheque.

You pay 2% interest (above base rate earned) on withdrawals. To open an account, your average monthly savings should be Rs.1,000/- or more. Call or visit us today. Or mail the coupon now.

HI-PERFORMANCE SAVINGS ACCOUNT. THE ONLY ACCOUNT OF ITS KIND IN YOUR CITY.

EARN UPTO 10.94%*

GRINDLAYS



HI-PERFORMANCE SAVINGS ACCOUNT

Grindlays Hi-Performance Savings Account is a brand name of ANZ Grindlays Bank plc and includes a package of services.

*10.94% is the compounded interest rate on a 3 year Recurring Deposit on a base rate of 10%.

Marketing Manager — India, ANZ Grindlays Bank, 132 Mint Road, Bombay 400 001. ITO

Yes, I want to earn more on my savings through your Hi-Performance Savings Account.

Please send me more information/an Account Opening Form.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

Phone: _____

ANZ Grindlays Bank

ANZ GRINDLAYS MAIN BRANCHES: ◻ BOMBAY – 90 M.G. ROAD, PH: 270165. ◻ CALCUTTA – 19 N.S. ROAD, PH: 208346. ◻ NEW DELHI – 10 SANSAD MARG, PH: 312004. ◻ MADRAS – 19 RAJAJI SALAI, PH: 589131. ◻ AMRITSAR – GANDHI BAZAR, PH: 43217. ◻ BANGALORE – MISSION ROAD, PH: 220300. ◻ COCHIN – BRISTOW ROAD, PH: 69582. ◻ DARJEELING – 49 LADEN LA ROAD, PH: 2777. ◻ GUWAHATI – FANCY BAZAR, PH: 27018. ◻ HYDERABAD – 5-9-234 ABIDS, PH: 237506. ◻ KANPUR – 16 M.G. ROAD, PH: 211462 ◻ SHIMLA – THE MALL, PH: 3025. ◻ SRINAGAR – SHERWANI ROAD, PH: 76935. ◻ TUTICORIN – 44 BEACH ROAD, PH: 20817.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

imposed—thus implying that there were no civil rights violations before. Says a Srinagar-based journalist: "They have not taken note of the large number of people arrested without charges in late-'87 and all through 1988 by the Farooq Abdullah regime. They do not even acknowledge that these people still rot in various jails." In fact, many of those summarily detained under various anti-terrorist laws were election agents and later polling agents for the Muslim United Front. Yasin Malik, who later proclaimed himself as the commander-in-chief of the JKLF, was one such election agent who was tortured by the police during Farooq's rule.

By aligning themselves with one line of political thought, the groups' image of being impartial champions of civil rights is also suspect. The PUCL report, prepared in April, categorically states: "One sees the hand of Mr George Fernandes, the Minister for Kashmir, in the recent salutary changes in government policy. If his hands are strengthened, the Kashmir problem will become less intractable than it is." Says a veteran civil rights activist: "These reports have become platforms to air the political, economic and social views of these groups."

PRASHANT PANJIAR

"There have been aberrations. However, we have been able to take care of them."

J.N. SAKSENA
Director-General, J&K Police

Also questionable is the method used by these groups for the preparation of reports. Firstly, the time spent by these teams in the Valley is brief—three to seven days. Secondly, having virtually no sources at the grassroot level, they are dependent on their local contacts, some of whom are sympathetic or known to have links with the militants.

WORSE, members of the teams take the alleged victim's version as the complete truth, recording every unsubstantiated report without bothering to find out the official version. The PUCL report is a classic example.

Thus, the PUCL report on the alleged mass rapes at Chhanpura states: "Instances regarding molestation of women in Chhanpura were brought to the notice of the team members, Mr Balraj Puri and Inder Mohan, who were taken to the house where two young girls were said to have been raped by security forces. This was confirmed by the victimised girls." But there are no details on when the incident happened, how many people were involved, whether a medical examination and an official investigation were conducted.

Subsequent official investigation revealed that the incident, which reportedly took place on March 7 during a house raid, was a hoax. Says Director- General (J&K Police) J.N. Saksena: "No rape was committed. We've ascertained that, medically, beyond doubt. Even the women have denied it." Counters V.M. Tarkunde, a PUCL member: "The police are mischievous for filing false evidence."

Apart from inadequate investigation, the reports suffer from inaccuracies and exaggerations. For example, though the report by the Committee for Initiative on Kashmir, *Kashmir Imprisoned*, states "the local police station was instructed not to file FIRs or register any case, against the security forces", the Government denies this. Says Ved Marwah, advisor to the Governor: "There are no such instructions. Nobody is above the law."

Saksena detailed at least 15 cases, including six of murder and three of rape, that have been registered against the security forces in different police stations, through FIRs. These are in addition to the 12 court of enquiries ordered, since January 1990. Says Saxena: "There have been aberrations but we have taken care of them."

Significantly, the reports suffer from a major contradiction. Though they accuse the Government and its agencies of atrocities, they appeal to the same government to take corrective action. But Mulay defends the stand: "Who else can we appeal to? The Government is not a single monolith but is made up of different individuals with different points of view."

However, there are civil right group members who confess their inability to take any follow-up action. Says Inder Mohan, a founder member of PUCL: "Follow-up is difficult due to limited resources".

"The police are very mischievous. They are known to have often filed false evidence."

V.M. TARKUNDE
PUCL member

Interestingly, the Congress (I), which had earlier been dismissing PUCL reports on the grounds that they were politically motivated is now quoting the Kashmir report to prove large-scale violation of human rights in the state. Its also been critical of the Government's decision to allow Amnesty International to investigate in Kashmir and Punjab. This despite the fact that Amnesty has a large research department in London using scientific methods of investigation. Says Dr Arun Mehta, the president of the Indian Section: "Information is only put out by Amnesty after an exhaustive verification process has proved the information to be absolutely true."

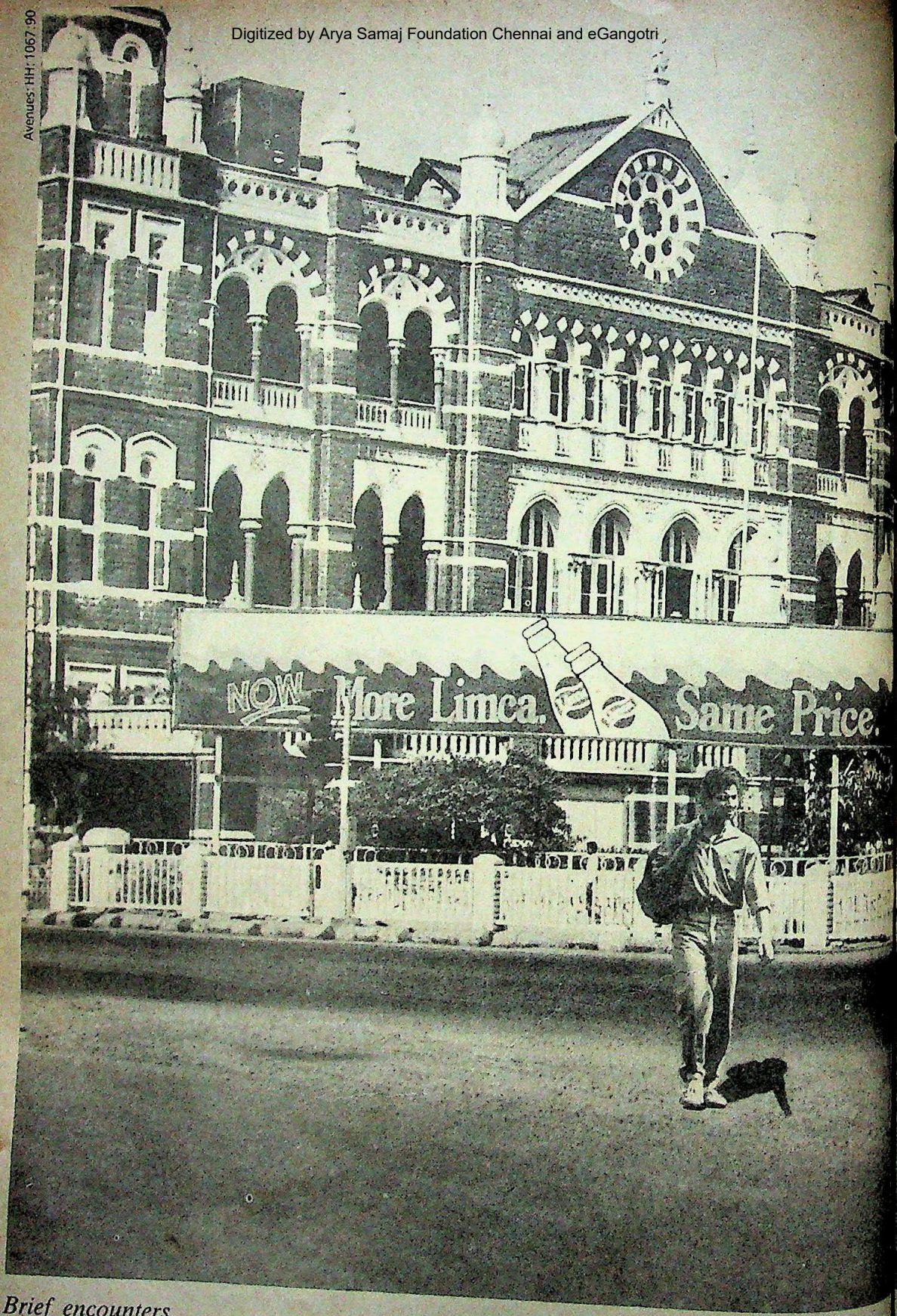
Compared to Amnesty the investigation by Indian groups on Kashmir leaves much to be desired. But there is no denying their crucial role in objectively assessing human rights abuses. So far they have not done so.

—W.P.S. SIDHU in Srinagar

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Avenues: HH: 1067:90



Brief encounters.

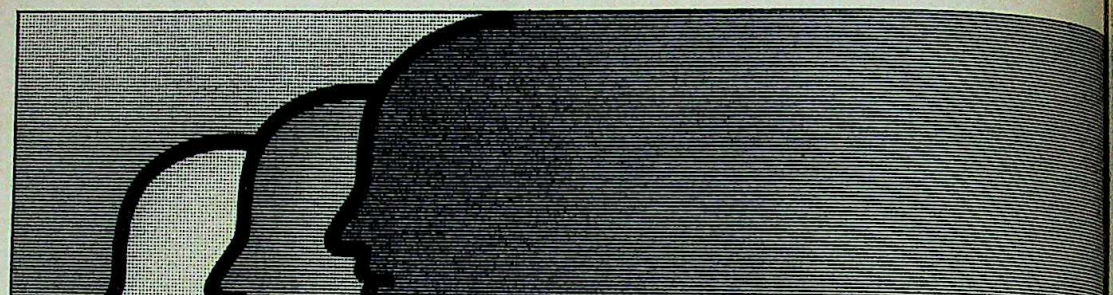
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

BE THE BEST OF THE BEST



The Management Development Institute announces its Fourth National Management Programme.

A comprehensive management programme for today's promising achievers seeking responsible leadership tomorrow. Structured to enhance your ability to handle higher responsibilities, efficiently and confidently. Offering an opportunity to interact with professionals from diverse fields, thus, broadening your horizons.

Highlights of the Programme

- In co-operation with the four IIMs and XLRI
- A distinguished faculty, including eminent personalities from the IIMs, and other institutes of repute
- Sponsored by the Department of Personnel & Training, Government of India
- Contents of the Programme designed to suit your experience and position for assuming higher responsibilities.

Participants

Officers in All India Services and Group 'A' Services of Central and State Governments, Managers in Public & Private Sectors, and decision-makers in family-owned enterprises.

Qualifications

A minimum of 50% aggregate marks in graduation and also in any one of the examinations held by a Board/University for 10th, 11th or 12th standard. Age below 35 years. With at least 5 years of work experience.

Duration

Fifteen months: 12 months at the MDI Campus, Gurgaon (near Delhi) and 3 months on project work in the sponsoring organisation. The Programme commences on July 1, 1991.

Selection Procedure

You are required to take the Common Admission Test (CAT) of the IIMs, to be held at different centres throughout India on Dec. 9, 1990. A separate advertisement for CAT will appear in national newspapers around Sept. 1, 1990. CAT bulletins will be available at selected SBI branches from Sept. 3 till Oct. 6, 1990. Selection will be based on our evaluation of your performance in CAT and subsequent interview at MDI.

For NMP application form and prospectus or further details write to the address given below. Last date for receiving filled-in NMP forms at MDI is Nov. 30, 1990.

The Programme Officer

National Management Programme

Management Development Institute

Post Box No. 60, Mehrauli Road Gurgaon-122 001.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Playing Politics

PLAYING god is a temptation all journalists have to guard against. But it takes the brashness of the present dispensation in the *Indian Express* to broadcast it far and wide through the pages of the newspaper.

Readers of the *Express* did not fail to notice a cartoon by Rajendra in its August 2 editions. It made tall claims, on behalf of the newspaper, of having successfully captured the scalps of two former prime ministers, a former home minister, a former Lok Sabha Speaker and, most recently, even that of the former deputy prime minister.

Although the cartoon raised wry smiles in the journalistic fraternity, its import was largely missed. No one can accuse the *Express* of modesty, either in its critiques or in the stellar role it is playing in Indian politics. But when it lays claims to ending the political careers of a succession of leaders, one must sit up and examine its record.

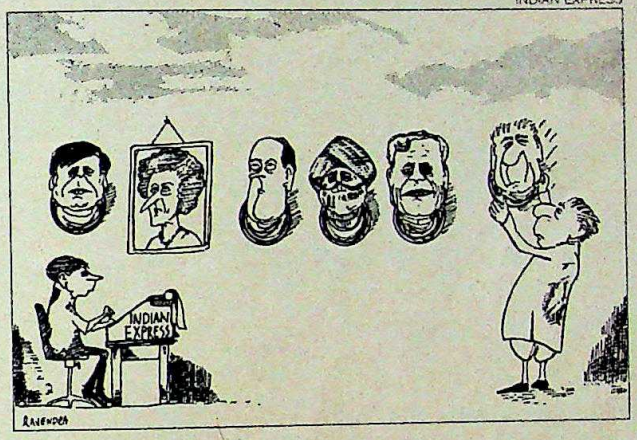
The *Express*, in recent years in particular, has become a campaign newspaper. The Indian press in general is addicted to mixing news with comment, a genre of journalism practised elsewhere in the world, most notably by *Le Monde*. The responsible American press, on the other hand, separates news from comment, as far as possible.

The main difference between the two schools of journalism is that it is permissible for one kind of newspaper to write opinionated stories while the other kind must source its news reports or carry the slug "news analysis" while commenting on the news pages.

But neither kind of journalism in the West—talking of major responsible newspapers—would permit their writers, or editors for that matter, to open the news pages to a host of comments running down or propagating particular politicians in power. For that means a newspaper becoming part of the murky world of politics. And as the *Express* editor, Arun Shourie, among others, will have discovered, he and his newspaper then become an object of political attack.

Not that our politicians need much prompting to condemn the press. It was referred to in earlier times as the "jute press" and latterly by the former deputy prime minister, Devi Lal, as an expression of an urbanite culture singing the tunes of capitalists like Goenka, Ambani and Birla.

INDIAN EXPRESS



It is tempting to play god but ultimately the credibility of the newspaper and of the entire press suffers.

How valid are the claims of the *Express* in obtaining the scalp of Devi Lal? The political tussle between Prime Minister V.P. Singh and his former deputy, had been in progress for months before it came to a head. For those supporting Singh, Devi Lal's challenge, highly susceptible to news headlines, was wrongheaded because it could pose a danger to the Government's stability. The *Express* was very much in this camp.

A succession of anti-Devi Lal stories became the staple diet of the *Express*. And the newspaper finally delivered its coup de grace in a report alleging that a forged letter ostensibly written by V.P. Singh imputing the honesty of the Commerce Minister, Arun Nehru, was knowingly sent by Devi Lal to the prime minister.

Some of the *Express* thunder was stolen by Pritish Nandy of *The Illustrated Weekly of India* in the pithy interview he was able to obtain from Devi Lal on the failings of the Government and of V.P. Singh, described in the text as "spineless". This interview became the last straw on the camel's back, leading to the sack of Devi Lal.

While the *Weekly* has made no claims to getting Devi Lal sacked, the *Express* does. Yet it is known to any journalist worth his salt that politicians are as capable of making use of the press as they are of being its victims. The press can create an aura of respectability or notoriety for a leader or a government which does influence political opinion in the end.

But to suggest that the *Express* or any other newspaper was responsible for Devi Lal's exit is not true. Devi Lal's opponents in the Janata Dal used the *Express* to denigrate the Jat leader and the *Express* was, to all appearances, a willing party to it. On the other hand, it is even suggested that Devi Lal himself brought the crisis to a head by giving the interview to the *Weekly*: in other words, that it was a set-up job. V.P. Singh seems to be inclined to the second theory because he is reported to have darkly hinted at the political role of "a journalist" in this context.

The moral of the story is that once newspapers become part of intra-party or inter-party struggles, they make themselves vulnerable to the charge of partisanship or worse.

Yes, it is tempting to play god—to see oneself as an unofficial adviser to prime ministers or be lauded by sections of the ruling or opposition party as a hero. What suffers is the newspaper's credibility and, in a sense, that of the entire press.

It can, of course, be argued that credibility is a bourgeois virtue and scandals and campaigns sell a newspaper. For a newspaper that claims to be a responsible one, such gains can yield only short-term results.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

KOTHARI INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION LTD

- CONSOLIDATING PAST GAINS
- SCALING HIGHER PEAKS
- BREAKING NEW GROUNDS
- HERALDING THE DAWN OF A NEW VIBRANT ERA ...

Excerpts from the Statement of the Chairman, Dr. D.C. Kothari at the 21st Annual General Meeting held on 1st Aug. 1990 at Madras.

My hearty welcome to members attending the Company's 21st Annual General Meeting.

On this occasion, our best wishes to the National Front Government under the dynamic leadership of Hon'ble Shri. V.P. Singh.

Dr. D.C. Kothari
Chairman

ECONOMIC TRENDS — Higher targets, greater growth

The performance of the economy during last year was satisfactory. An increase in the index of agricultural production, albeit marginal, offsets the deceleration in industrial growth. The 5% targeted growth in GDP during the Seventh Plan is likely to be achieved. The new Industrial Policy, I hope, will accelerate the growth rate. The Eighth Plan should do even better...

TEXTILES — Steady market, rising demand

A record export coupled with heavy purchase by the Cotton Corporation shored up its prices to the benefit of farmers. They harvested a bumper crop during 1989-90. Higher purchasing power in rural markets, has created a good demand — substantiated by a steady market. Despite a 25% increase in spindleage and a good movement of yarn and other fabricated materials. Whether the price line can be held up in 1990-91 with the anticipated increase in crop or not, is to be seen.

PLANTATION — Tea — Better times ahead

In the Tea industry, hectic activity marks both the domestic and export markets. Shortfall in production and export commitments have pushed up local prices. Larger Soviet purchase has curtailed our hard currency exports. Greater efforts should be made to increase our production to a level of 1100 million kilos to meet the demand. From export and domestic markets Governments, at the Centre and States, should extend beneficial measures — depreciation allowance on tea bushes, revised replanting allowance, reduction in agricultural income-tax, removal of entry tax and other levies etc.

We have, on our side, replanted certain areas under the NABARD scheme.

TEA BOARD AWARD — Our members would be happy at this.

Our Brooklands Estate bagged the Tea Board award for highest yield per hectare in Nilgiris District for 1988.

COFFEE — A case for broadbased marketing

All India coffee production down by 39%.. a glut in the international market due to the virtual collapse of the export system. Resulting in a 45% — 49% fall in prices. Affected the scale of returns considerably. However, the All India production of coffee in 1991 expected to be over 2.25 lakh tonnes.

There is a compelling need to review the Coffee Act. Especially, in the marketing of coffee which needs to be freed and made broadbased. As in the case of tea, another pertinent point to be noted and acted upon. Cost of production of coffee in India is the highest in the world. And naturally it adversely affects plantations. More so, in lean years.

FERTILISERS — Accelerating agricultural growth

Recent increase in agricultural production is due largely to increased use of key inputs — fertilisers and irrigation. The average growth in agricultural output was 5.4% during the period 1980-81 to 1988-89. Our irrigated area increased, on an average, by 3%, the increase in use of fertilisers measured in terms of NPK mixtures was 8.9%. A steady growth in the offtake of Super Phosphate and NPK Mixtures was witnessed during this period.

Keeping this trend in view, the Company is undertaking modernisation and installation of balancing equipment to enhance the capacity to 80,000 tonnes per annum of Super Phosphate and 40,000 tonnes of Sulphuric Acid.

DIVERSIFICATION

As resolved at the Extraordinary General Meeting of March 1990, initiatives in the areas of distilleries, mining, leather, leather exports etc. are being undertaken. A subsidiary, KOTHARI (Madras) INTERNATIONAL LIMITED, has already started trading and export of leather.

CONCLUSION

My thanks to the Financial Institutions, Banks, shareholders, depositors, staff and workers for their support and continued co-operation. I now look forward to share the fruits of our efforts with members in the years to come.

PROSPECTS FOR 1990-91

Mr. Pradip D Kothari, Vice-Chairman and Managing Director of the Company in his speech, informed the shareholders about the unaudited working results from 1-4-90 to 30-6-90 and the prospects for the ensuing year, which are given in the table below:-

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

	April '90 to June '90 Unaudited actuals	April '89 to June '89 Comparative
	Rs. in lacs	
Turnover	1954	1710
Profit after interest and depreciation before tax	260	175
Modernisation/Improvements being implemented		
Textiles	885	
Fertilisers	190	
Plantations		
Replanting infilling in Tea and Coffee	311	
Total cost	1,386	

Note: This does not purport to be a report of the proceedings of the 21st Annual General Meeting of the Company held on 1st August 1990.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Rediffusion UCB

Photographs by M. GOPAKU

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

AMITABH BACHCHAN

Making Idyllic Waves

Mauritius pulls out all the stops for the *Jumma Chumma* megastar

"BUCHCHAAAN, Buchchaaan" yells the girl with a floppy black hat perched at a saucy angle on her head. Hearing his name with that delicious French twist to it, Amitabh Bachchan saunters over to the attractive teenager, lifts her hat and arranges it on his own head. It's downtown Port Louis, the Mauritian capital's main bus stand, and the lanky star is playing court jester to a growing audience of commuters and cops.

For three weeks this paradisical little island with emerald waters washing its blindingly white sand beaches has been taken over by the Bombay film world, the island's temporary *shehenshahs*. The film *Hum* with its mega-star cast is being shot here and the Government of Mauritius seems to have handed over the keys to producer Ramesh Sharma.

The paramilitary Special Mobile Force (SMF)—Mauritius doesn't have army—has loaned its armoured ve cles and helicopters to director Mu Anand. A helicopter swoops down o the restricted area of the docks w

The mega-star cast of *Hum*: on location in Mauritius

INTERVIEW

"Sometime you have to step down"

AMITABH Bachchan seems to have dropped both years and kilos and is not looking his 49 years. His face no longer sags the way it did. Its grey pallor is replaced by a more bronzed hue. The gentle breezes of Mauritius and the recent court judgement exonerating him have worked like an elixir. His mood is more upbeat. And on the sets of the film Hum, *he plays to the gallery. But suddenly an invisible wall comes up around him. And the jester becomes the loner. His retreat is a bottle green car parked on the docks. Special Correspondent* MADHU JAIN *spoke to Bachchan in this stationary retreat. Excerpts:*

Q. *Do you feel threatened by the starlings in this age of puppy love?*

A. Young blood has come so the old must move—that's nature's way. I have never believed in being number one. Maybe my films did better than others and got better ratings. But now those ratings are falling. You win some. You lose some. I had a very fruitful spell. Sometime you have to step down, step off the treadmill.

Q. *Apparently your comeback vehicle,* Shahenshah, *was not such a flop.*

A. It wasn't a comeback vehicle, but yes, it was the first film after I resigned from the Lok Sabha. It did Rs 1.3 crore in Bombay alone, yet it was dubbed a flop. The film was looked at in a political way. The later films have bombed. They made me repeatedly do the same thing . And it is true, my face just doesn't look the same anymore.

Q. *You mean many of your films labelled as flops were not really so?*

A. Look, it has to do with the proportion of business. The success or failure of an actor is guided by economics. Though *Shahenshah*, *Ganga Jamuna Saraswati* and *Agnipath* are termed flops, all crossed Rs 10 crore.

Q. *What are you going to do about the way your film career is going?*

A. I have not signed a film for a long time. I must allow myself to finish all this and then look at what I want to

Q. *How do you feel about be called an aging and flop actor?*

A. It is factually correct. My fil aren't all doing well. I am looking o It's part of life and has to happ sometime.

Q. *But do you feel old?*

A. Physically, I am 50 per ce below my capacity. But mentally I a alert and alive. And that is what frustrating. In a film I get excited abo a particular stunt or dance number b when I get down to doing it I can might appear alright to an outsid But Myesthenia Gravia is not curab it's only controllable. Actually, I'd pr fer not to talk about my illness. The l time I did I received income tax notic They checked all the hospital recor

Q. *Obviously your battle with t Government is not over. What's y next step after the London verdict*

A. This is just the beginning. are going to launch two conspira cases abroad against the investigat team. I am determined to square things. Efforts are already on to bel the London judgement.

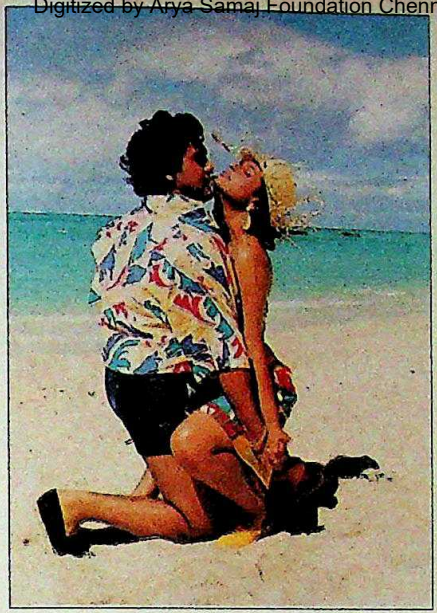
Q. *Can we talk about your p posed hibernation from films?*

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

achchan—for real, not the ummy—dangling on a rope from Short of sending in the marines, e SMF is on standby for all help. The Mauritian Government has lowed cameras into the airport to lp love on its flights of fancy: hilpa Shirodkar dances on a wing Chateau Benaras, the Air Mauri- us 747 parked on the tarmac, while ovinda serenades her from below.

MEANWHILE back at the docks, Amitabh Bachchan carries on his one-man va- ety show. Anupam Kher and nnu Kapoor—both diabolical in -detergent white suits—and Kimi atkar almost fall off their chairs ughing while he gives an ani- nated account of his scariest roller- oaster ride. When a bit of feather- ke white hair falls off his head (he ays elder brother to Rajni Kant and ovinda) Bachchan calls out to his ake-up man: *"Mera budhapa mere ath me aa gaya"* (my old age has fallen to my hands). Next come Bachchan's ecdotes about his son Abhishek up- aging him in Mauritius by helping



Govinda and Shilpa: the dancing props

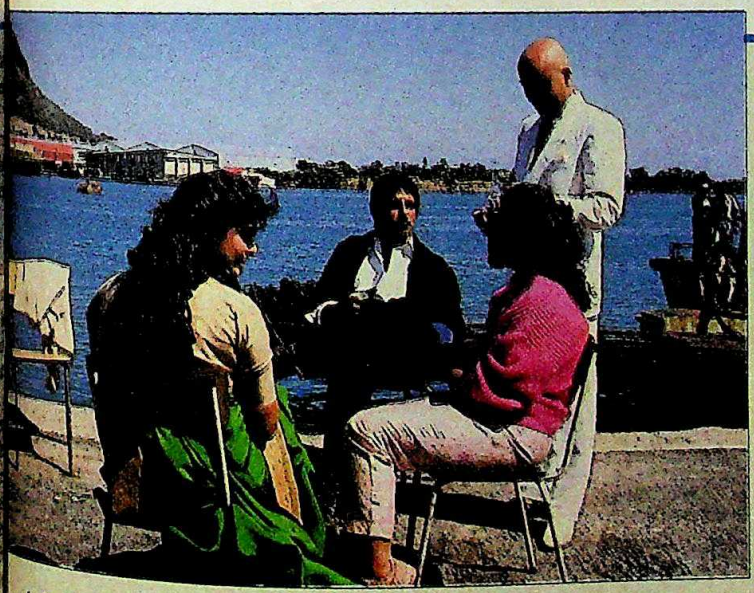
Deepa Sahi emerge out of the waters.

Gaiety is infectious here. It's almost as if the upbeat mood of *Jumma, chumma* has spilled over. A little bird tells you that the song, which made this film a hit almost before the cameras began to roll, was really courtesy Bachchan who tinkered with it. "It's not at all like shooting, this is like home," says Sharma.

Meanwhile, in the boats sailing by, people can be seen crowding the decks to wave to the film stars. The Mauritians are crazy about Indian films: shown thrice a week on television. And sometimes, the celluloid gods upstage the others. The audience abandoned a performance of the Ramayana and mobbed the Indian film stars. Anupam Kher had them in splits when he told them that as a child he played Ram, when he got a little older it was Meghnath, and now it only Ravan. Bachchan, in more serious mode, had the pundits and swamis floored when he recited a *shlok* from the Ramayana.

All this, and paradise too? For the Indian film industry, Mauritius is the new mecca with its beaches and azure waters. As it is, with Kashmir out of bounds, Indian film makers are desperately seeking locations for frolicking lovers. And with the Mauritian Government laying on the red carpet, the Bombay-Mauritius flight is now going to be full of Indian film makers.

—MADHU JAIN in Port Louis



Bachchan with his co-star

A. No, it is not quite hibernation laughs). I want some time to recapitu- ate and then pick and choose what is est. I would like to be a little free.

Q. *What sort of roles would you do fter this interlude?*

A. Well, *Agnipath* was an indica- ion of possible roles. Romance was not here and I never sang a song.

Q. *What about directing films or oing different kinds of films?*

A. No, I don't want to direct films. Nor can I go far from the commercial.

Q. *You seem quite bitter...*

A. The acting profession is looked down upon. Look at the kind of things they say: *naachne gaane wale ko vote de diya* (votes have been given to dancers and singers). I find it disturbing the way people talk about us. This is the only medium, which can project national integration and secularism. But politicians don't use it.

Q. *Isn't the violence on the screen excessive?*

A. We are accused of having too much violence in our films. But the biggest act of violence was Partition. No film influenced it. How many caste riots have been influenced by films?

Q. *Perhaps, but look at the way rape is depicted in films like* Zakhmi Aurat.

A. It is the censor laws. They can't show things straight. They show a man and woman in bed and the camera shifts to two *totas* (parrots) or even a suddenly erupting fountain. It would perhaps be better to show the couple copulating. They put love behind closed doors and ridicule it.

Q. *Do you mind the voyeuristic articles on your personal life?*

A. No, when you are in public life, this is the norm.

Q. *Is your image of the lonely, angry man true?*

A. It was created by journalists.

Q. *You really don't like our tribe.*

A. I love journalists. In my next birth, I will be one.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

A SAFARI INTO SPLENDOUR

God's own coun

101 tuskers thunder. Native drums throb.
And the Great Elephant March begins.

A spectacular elephant safari through Kerala. Amidst sizzling snakeboat races, restless rice fields and sensuous dancers. For four festive days. January 16–21, 1991.

For a free brochure write to Govt. of India Tourism Offices or KTDC's Reception Centres or mail this coupon to Kerala Tourism.

Please send me a free brochure on The Great Elephant March 1991

Name ..... State .....
Address ..... Telephone .....
City .....

THE GREAT ELEPHANT MARCH JANUARY 16-21 1991

kerala

Kerala Tourism, Park View, Thiruvananthapuram 695 033, Kerala, India. Phone: 0471-61132 Telex: 0435-336 KTDC IN

THE GREAT ELEPHANT MARCH 1991 **Special Tour Packages:** 1. Deluxe Package for US $ 1000 covering all festival days. 2. Festival Package for US $ 250 with selective coverage of programmes.

Jan 16 KOCHI (formerly, Cochin). Ceremonial welcome **Jan 17 THRISSUR** (formerly Trichur). Gaja Pooja, ceremonial assembly of 101 caparisoned tuskers, ceremonial feeding of elephants by participants, elephant rides through quaint g
Jan 18 KOCHI Sight seeing in and around the city. The charmingly rustic Jewtown, 400 years old Jewish Synagogue, Dutch Palace, Vasco-da-Gama's tomb at the St. Francis Church and more. A backwater cruise in the evening ending w
the sunset. An optional trip to the Munnar tea plantations for a nominal extra fee. **Jan 19 ALAPPUZHA** (formerly, Alleppey). 15 Chundans (warcraft of the old Kerala Kings) race for you in the Punnamada Lake. Visitors can have a cruise
Chundans, if they please. An optional eight hour backwater cruise to Kollam (formerly, Quilon). With prior intimation you can choose to land midway. **Jan 20 THIRUVANANTHAPURAM** (formerly, Trivandrum). Spend the day at Kovalam Bea
the closing festivities at Thiruvananthapuram. Alternatively you may join an optional tour to Kanyakuman. Short elephant rides along Kovalam Beach, 60 caparisoned elephants re-enact the spectacular Thrissur Pooram Festival, tug-of-war bet
participants and tuskers. Kerala martial arts display, glorious cultural performances, seaside barbecues, dances through the night. **Jan 21** Departure from Thiruvananthapuram.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Mudra:C.D.

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

FRANCE

Seeking a Refuge

Indians seek asylum for economic gain

EVENING rush-hour inside the metro station at Republique, one of the busiest areas of Paris. People hurry to and fro, their chatter punctuated by the arrival and departure of trains. Suddenly, the French cadences are interrupted by a hail of Punjabi abuses. They emanate from a young man who is hurriedly stuffing unsold trinkets into a bag. Within seconds, he scampers away before a policeman, walking in his direction, can catch him.

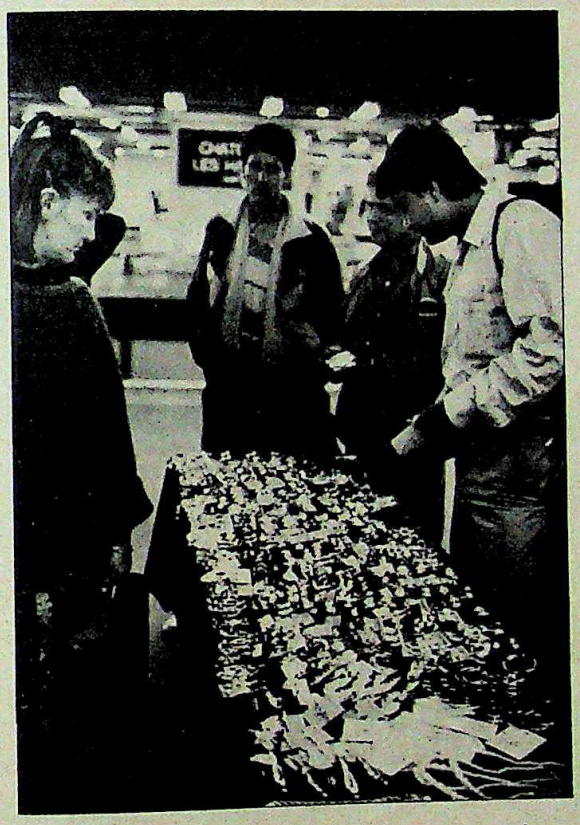
The man is Jagtar Singh, a Sikh from Faridkot. He's no ordinary vendor but an "asylum case", ostensibly fleeing political persecution at home. And he happens to be just one among thousands from India earning their daily bread in Paris.

Immigration has been officially disallowed in France since 1974 but the number of economic refugees from the Third World who enter under the pretext of political persecution has swelled dramatically in recent years. More are turning to Europe as they find it difficult to enter Britain, the US, or Canada, the favourites of yore.

Though the number of Bangladeshis, Pakistanis and Sri Lankans seeking "refuge" in France has gone up appreciably, Indians are still few as there is greater scepticism towards stories of persecution in the world's largest democracy. According to OFPRA, the organisation dealing with protection of refugees, 2,214 Sri Lankans, 1,039 Pakistanis, 429 Bangladeshis and 661 Indians demanded political asylum between January and August 1989. Of the 915 Sri Lankan dossiers examined during this period, 583 received refugee status. But only three of the 403 Indians cases scrutinised received approval. In 1988, OFPRA opened dossiers for 466 Indian refuge-seekers; 418 were rejected.

In theory, the illegal immigrants may be political exiles but in practice, most of them are too busy earning a living to worry about politics. Pakistanis have struck roots in the ready-made garments business in Paris. Sri Lankans have set up small travel agencies and groceries. Sri Lankan Tamils are sought after as domestic help as they know English. Indians, in comparison, are more visible as roving merchants in the underground, perhaps because they are fewer and don't have a strong ethnic network.

The story of Jagtar Singh, self-confessedly an economic refugee, is typically picaresque. Back home, he had a low-paid job in the transport business. Friends suggested he try the "asylum route". So a year and a half ago, he boarded a Bucharest-bound flight. "Indians could get Romanian visas at no cost and with no trouble. I had no intentions of going to Romania, of course," he says smiling.



Indian refugees selling jewellery at a Paris metro station

At the Frankfurt stop-over Jagtar slipped out and promptly demanded asylum on grounds of being a Sikh political activist, facing persecution in India. "The proof can be arranged with a little bribe to police stations in Punjab," he claims. A short stint at a refugee camp followed while the authorities processed his application. Within three months, Jagtar received a rejection slip and again hit the road.

Other refugees recommended France, known for bureaucratic bottlenecks. A Pakistani agent promised to get him across for 700 deutschmarks (1.7 DM equals US $1). Jagtar boarded a Paris-bound train, got off before the border and drove into France in a taxi through an unguarded point.

Today Jagtar remains undeterred by the fact that his application has been rejected by OFPRA. His case is now with the Commission de Recours des Refugies, the next port of call for asylum-seekers. "There are ways and means of delaying things," Jagtar says.

"If all else fails, you can always get into a marriage of convenience with a French woman," says Babubhai. Babu (not his real name), 30, a Gujarati is reluctant to divulge his identity but speaks freely about the modus operandi of refuge-seekers. But what political harassment can Gujaratis cite? "You say you were in the Opposition, no matter which party is in power," Babu says blithely.

Feroze, 21, is another Gujarati asylum-seeker in Paris. His ostensible reason for seeking asylum: persecution by the Shiv Sena. His case is currently with the Commission of Appeal. Though a graduate, he now sells household goods in the metro.

Interestingly, the Indian Embassy is quite sympathetic towards asylum-seekers. "Logically, we should take up the matter with the French authorities and ask for their extradition. But we know the ground reality, so we ignore the issue," says an official.

But the future is not so bright. The French are tightening entry rules. And as the countries of the European Economic Community move towards abolition of internal barriers, stricter measures and greater police control for immigrants are on the cards.

As the screws tighten, the ingenuity of prospective refugees from India is going to be sorely tested. They'll have to come up with better excuses than persecution by the Shiv Sena.

—PATRALEKHA CHATTERJEE in Paris

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ISRO

Reaching for the Sky

India envisages entering world spacecraft market

THE Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) clearly wants a bigger piece of the sky. Its think tank is currently engaged in drawing up a strategy to sell satellites and space technology in the international market. At the cutting edge of the new strategy, if ISRO's ambitious plans are approved, will be an independent and autonomous corporate wing to market the company's hi-tech wares in the rest of the world.

As the first step towards making its presence in the space market felt, ISRO has submitted a proposal to the international maritime satellite organisation (Inmarsat) for building the third generation satellites that the organisation needs.

India is the only developing country that has bid for the multi-million dollar contract expected to be awarded by the end of the year. ISRO's confidence stems from the fabrication of the remote sensing satellite IRS-1A which has been functioning flawlessly for more than two years now. In all, it has built 11 satellites since the Indian space programme took off in 1963.

Inmarsat, set up in 1979, has 58 member states, including India, and has been operating a maritime communication network since 1982. It also serves the land and aeronautic markets. The European Space Agency, International Telecommunication Satellite Organisation and Communication Satellite Organisation, US, have leased spacecraft to Inmarsat. British Aerospace is the main contractor for the second generation of Inmarsat spacecraft to be launched this year. The third generation satellites are to be launched from 1994.

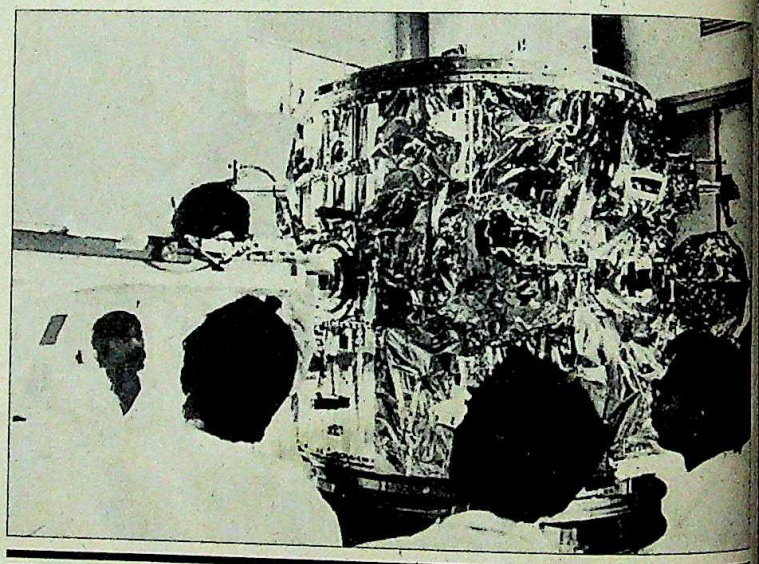
Although ISRO experts exude confidence about their proposal to Inmarsat, the organisation suffers from a disadvantage—each of the other bidders has put aloft an average of 60 satellites each. And all the bidders are consortiums. Space experts hope that the proposed corporate body can tie up with agencies like Ford Communications, Aerospatiale or British Aerospace. "The corporation would be legally and financially independent, making one-to-one negotiations easier," says an ISRO scientist.

ISRO Chairman U.R. Rao seconds that opinion. "If we want to aggressively get into the international market and also see that Indian industry benefits from space technology both directly and indirectly, we need a specialised body", he says.

ISRO has so far sold 162 technologies to Indian industry—50 in the field of electronics, computer systems, telecommunications, meteorology, television hardware and optics, among others. But the transfer has been done from different units of ISRO and the royalty goes to the Indian Government. There is, moreover, no special section to interact with clients.

Experts point out that the remote sensing satellite, IRS-1A, which has been churning out data could be an immediate money-spinner. It has already executed a soil survey consultancy project for locating a sugar industry in Burundi in Central Africa, a photographic survey project for a road alignment feasibility study in Nepal, and even a locust survey in Africa.

Indian scientists assembling satellite



Experts at the space commission are now pushing for the setting up of an autonomous corporate front to help market its technology internationally.

IRS-1A has photographed the entire country about 40 times and provided more than two lakh images, placing itself on par with the US Landsat and French Spot remote sensing satellites.

ISRO scientists also express confidence that India can launch smaller satellites for other countries at a lower cost than the big consortiums. But here, a serious handicap is ISRO's poor launch record. The ambitious ASLV programme has suffered two failures and the third developmental flight is slated for 1991.

The other hitch is that ISRO's relations with industry have not been too happy. M. Sampath, ISRO's director of technology transfer and industry co-operation, admits that Indian industry has been hesitant in making long-term financial commitments. To get around that, ISRO is currently drawing up plans to ensure a time-frame guarantee of up to five years. Already, rocket motor cases, propellants and "almost everything else" involving the ASLV project are being supplied by industries in the private and public sector, including Larsen & Toubro, Walchandnagar Industries, Godrej & Boyce and HAL.

Says Rao: "India's capacity to sell space technology is enormous." All it needs is aggressive commercial marketing. In other words, a non-governmental booster.

—C.B. YESHVANT KUMAR

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

zed by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai

La Opala takes a fresh look at morning tea

Unique pearly-white translucence that won't yellow or stain.

Delicate florals in a wide choice of colours and styles.

Superior quality opal glass prevents crazing and chipping.

LA OPALA

OVEN-PROOF OPAL GLASSWARE

Tell crockery times have changed

The La Opala range is available in sets and single pieces. For more information, contact:
La Opala Glass Pvt Ltd, 10th Floor, Chitrakoot, 230A AJC Bose Road, Calcutta 700 020; Phone 440414

Portrait of a businessman in hot pursuit of an international alliance.

Yo
oversea
a mirac
Yo
afternoo
An
multi-m
muscle
disposal
with yo
Wh
provide
consiste
You
a bank t
An
your co
Bec

in touch

BOMBAY: Fort.

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

You won't find him hogging the telephone, running up huge bills on overseas calls. Nor will you find him running from pillar to post, hoping a miracle will happen.

You'll find him exactly where you'll find him every Wednesday afternoon: enjoying a game of tennis at his club.

And if this seems somewhat unusual for a man trying to put a multi-million, multi-national deal together, it's because he has all the muscle and efficiency of one of Europe's top-ranking banks at his disposal. BNP, the bank that lets you get on with your business. And your life.

Whatever business you're in, BNP will provide you with a comprehensive range of consistent and timely financial services that let you sleep easy.

You'll find BNP is a bank that's willing to work as hard as you are, a bank that's willing to see things your way.

And you'll find BNP will give you advice that's intended to fill your coffers. Not ours.

Because BNP doesn't believe in making a quick buck this week and losing a client the next. It believes in building long term relationships that go beyond the numbers.

If you'd like to win game, set and match in the world of international finance, do please get in touch. The ball, as they say, is in your court.

BNP

Banque Nationale de Paris.

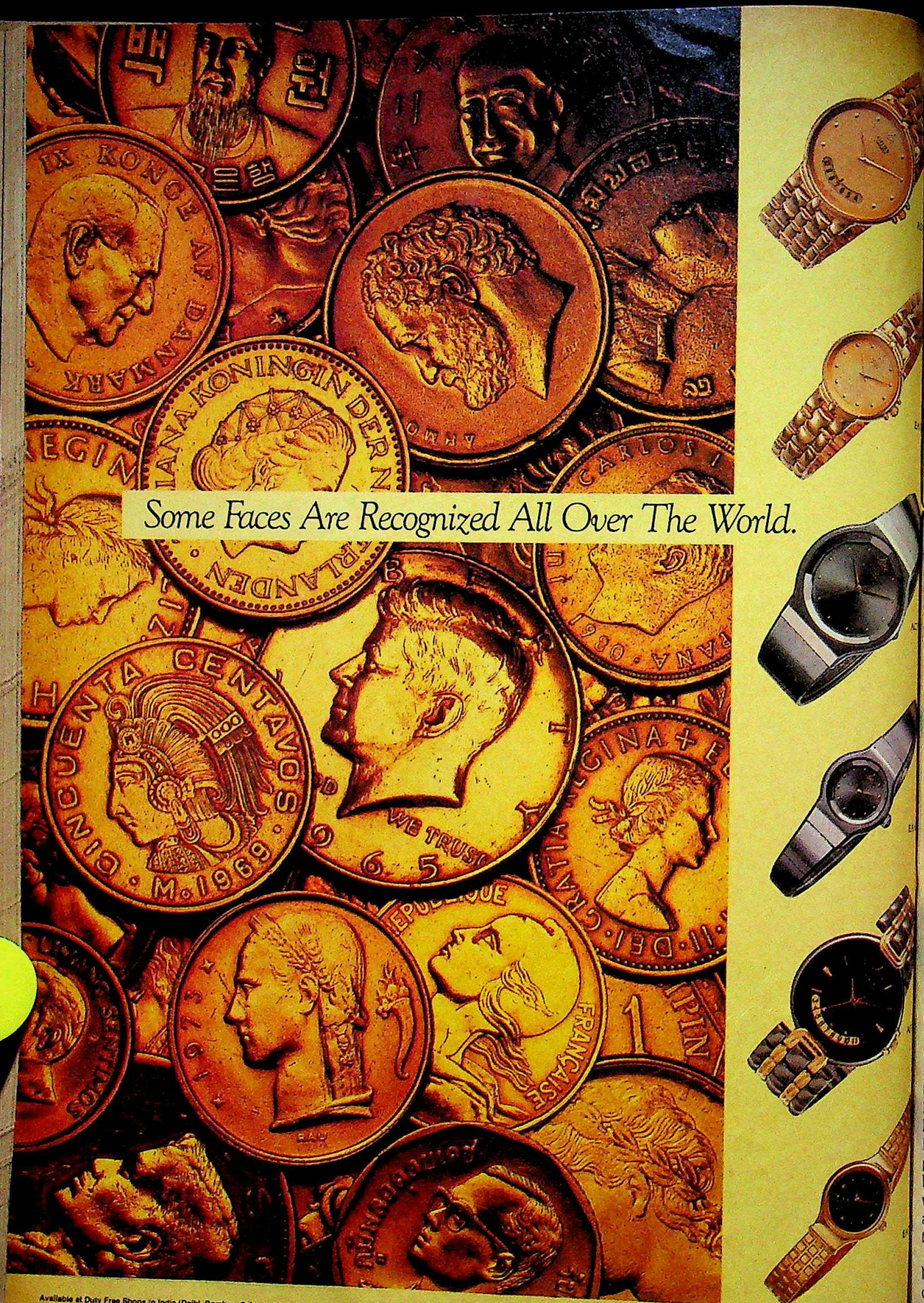
A relationship that goes beyond the numbers.

BOMBAY: Fort. Tel: 286 0822 / 286 0844. CALCUTTA: B.B.D. Bagh East. Tel: 20 2250 / 20 2318. DELHI: Barakhamba Rd. Tel: 331 2836 / 381 3540.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Enterprise/BNP/1 B

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



Available at Duty Free Shops in India (Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Trivandrum)
Supported by the most extensive service centre network in India:
■ Bombay: Watch Centre 1/F, 24 Mahendra Chambers, 136 D N Road Opp V T Station Bombay 400 001 Tel 241171 16/18 Abdul Rehman Street, Bombay 400 003 Tel 321262 ■ New Delhi: Amarson Watch Co 10-C Connaught Place New Delhi 110 001 Tel 310223 ■ Cochin: Kanapuram Bros Watch Co P B No 2582 Broadway, Ernakulam Cochin 682 031 Tel 352501 ■ Madras: Doshi & Doshi 3 Blackers Road, Next to Casino Theatre Mount Road Madras 600 002 Tel 833658 28 Devaraja Mudali Street Park Town Madras 600 003 Tel 565688 116 Royapettah High Road Mylapore Madras 600 004 Tel 72325 ■ Calcutta: Accro Sales Corporation Co 8 Bentinck Street Calcutta 700 001 Tel 233297 ■ Hyderabad: Khaleed Co 37 Commercial Street Bangalore 560 001 Tel 552501 ■ Bangalore: Everjoy &
CITIZEN IS A REGISTERED TRADEMARK OF CITIZEN
(For info

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Intellectual Inertia

THE current debate on the liberalisation of industrial economy, which revolves around how best to give a fillip to our productive and innovative resources, is not only important for the future of our economy but also relevant for other sectors of society. The problem is also shared by the intellectual sector which needs a debate on how we can encourage innovation in the sciences, arts and the social sciences. Given its stagnation and a lopsided trade balance in which we import infinitely more ideas than we export, the need for the liberalisation in the intellectual sector is even more urgent.

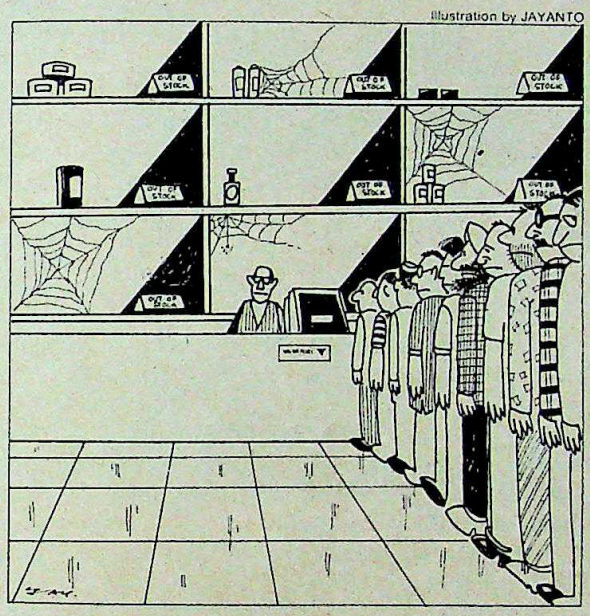
Our claim to possess the third largest scientific workforce is akin to the claim of having one of the largest public sectors. The bottom line is that both have produced precious little. Innovations, whether scientific ideas, technological inventions or medical procedures, are overwhelmingly imported. Intellectually, we are not ashamed at being consumers rather than producers.

The situation in the shrinking sector of traditional knowledge is more lamentable. Its effort is directed towards preservation rather than production. Though this may rekindle a revivalist pride in our past and contribute to a sense of national identity, the votaries of the traditional sector are in the same situation as the late Islamic fundamentalist, Maulana Maudoodi of Pakistan, who harkened back to a traditional intellectual agenda. As V.S. Naipaul ironically put it: "At the end of his long and cantankerous life the Maulana had gone against all his high principles. He had gone to a Boston hospital to look for health; he had at the very end entrusted himself to the skill and science of the civilization he had tried to shield his followers from."

Having worked at some of the leading intellectual centres of the western world as well as in India, I'd like to discuss some of our attitudes which hamper innovation in the intellectual sector. I believe we often take refuge in a dubious proposition about the uniqueness of India, which precludes us from learning from others.

Like the enterprises of the public sector, sooner or later most Indian intellectual institutions lose sight of their central purpose: the production of knowledge. We forget the fact that the productivity of the researcher is the *raison d'etre* for any such institution. All other purposes are secondary and everything that hampers the individual's intellectual potential and output is to be eliminated.

Illustration by JAYANTO



Most Indian intellectual institutions soon forget their central purpose—production of knowledge.

Gifted intellectuals often have a strong sense of the self. They may be eccentric and often have vastly different perceptions on the nature of their disciplines. They may be ideologically conservative or radical, their sartorial preference may range from three piece suits to frayed jeans and crumpled kurtas and pyjamas. A successful institution is flexible enough to accommodate these idiosyncrasies as it tries to facilitate each individual's intellectual self-expression. Discipline and regularity are virtues of the bowels, not of centres for research.

Attempting to instill a shared institutional perspective is to sound the death-knell of individual creativity. Our institutional heads should remember Abraham Lincoln's reaction to the complaint that his most successful general during the American Civil War drank himself to a stupor every evening. Lincoln only wanted to know the brand he drank so that he could send some crates to his more indifferent generals.

One of the reasons for the spread of uniformity and bureaucratisation—the intellectual counterpart of the licence and permit raj—is the status intellectual activity occupies in our society. The secret ambition of many an intellectual is not to receive the highest prizes his international professional fraternity has to offer. Instead ideally he would like his career to be crowned by entry into some kind of administrative hierarchy where his rank is comparable, say, to additional secretary to the Government of India.

We believe that the culmination of a successful intellectual career lies in its cessation. We bemoan the fact that young engineers want to become managers, promising academics are eager to enter administration while we ignore the role models we hold up in the intellectual sector itself where productive researchers jostle to become directors and professors strive to be vice-chancellors. Such a reverse Sanskritisation where Brahmins strive for the status of the Kshatriyas only increases the influence of administration, and its attendant bureaucracy, in intellectual institutions—to the great detriment of their central purpose. The price we pay for our values, which do not look askance at the tail wagging the dog, is the grey pall of mediocrity that hangs over most of our centres of learning and research.

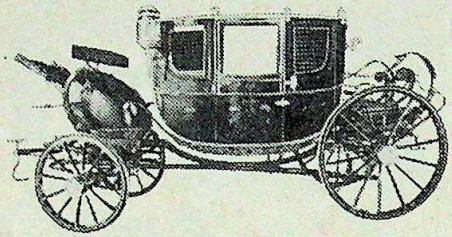
The writer is a prominent psychoanalyst.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Let's celebrate the company

The hot dusty roads of Madras at the turn of the last century. Home to stately, elegant horse-drawn carriages. Coaches whose fame had spread far and wide, from Manchester to the Malacca Straits.



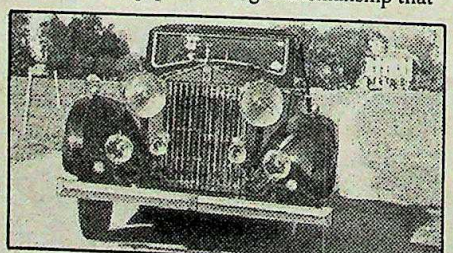
The same company that made these noble vehicles then startled and thrilled Madras by running a carriage that used a very different kind of horse power. The thrust provided by an engine.

That company was Simpsons. And it went on to popularise mechanical transport, introducing the concept of service stations with ready spares and able mechanics.

And soon across India and Asia, the motor car revolution had caught on ...

Earning the trust of Rolls-Royce

Simpsons had built a reputation of being among the finest carriage makers in the world. And the loving, painstaking craftsmanship that



had transported nobles and nawabs was transferred to the machines of the future. Craftsmanship that so impressed Rolls-Royce that Simpsons won the prestigious Rolls-Royce franchise in India.

Simpsons today

From horse-drawn carriages, to a motor vehicles, to manufacturing diesel sought after for vehicular, agricultural industrial and marine applications. Th nutshell, is the saga of Simpsons. Fro company of artisans to a prime mover o industry.

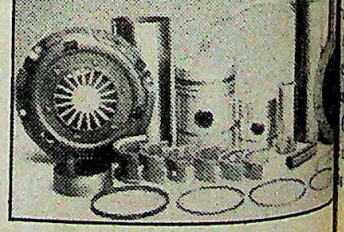
Simpsons: foundation of an indu powerhouse

A group of companies anchored i industrial ethos ... autonomous yet interdependent, diversified yet within whole. Industrial synergy.

That was the vision of industrialis Anantharamakrishnan and Amalgam and Simpsons the bedrock in which it anchored. Leveraging the solidity and strength built over a century into a ma manufacturing base. Aided in this era progress by collaborations with a rost renowned corporations from Europe, and Australia – Perkins, Massey Ferg T & N Group, United Engineering & F Van Moppes, Clevite and Repco. A ros recent times expanded to include Yu and Nippon Oils & Fats of Japan, SA France and Bookers of the UK.

Amalgamations : from vision to

A Rs.720-crore conglomerate. W companies spanning vastly diverse

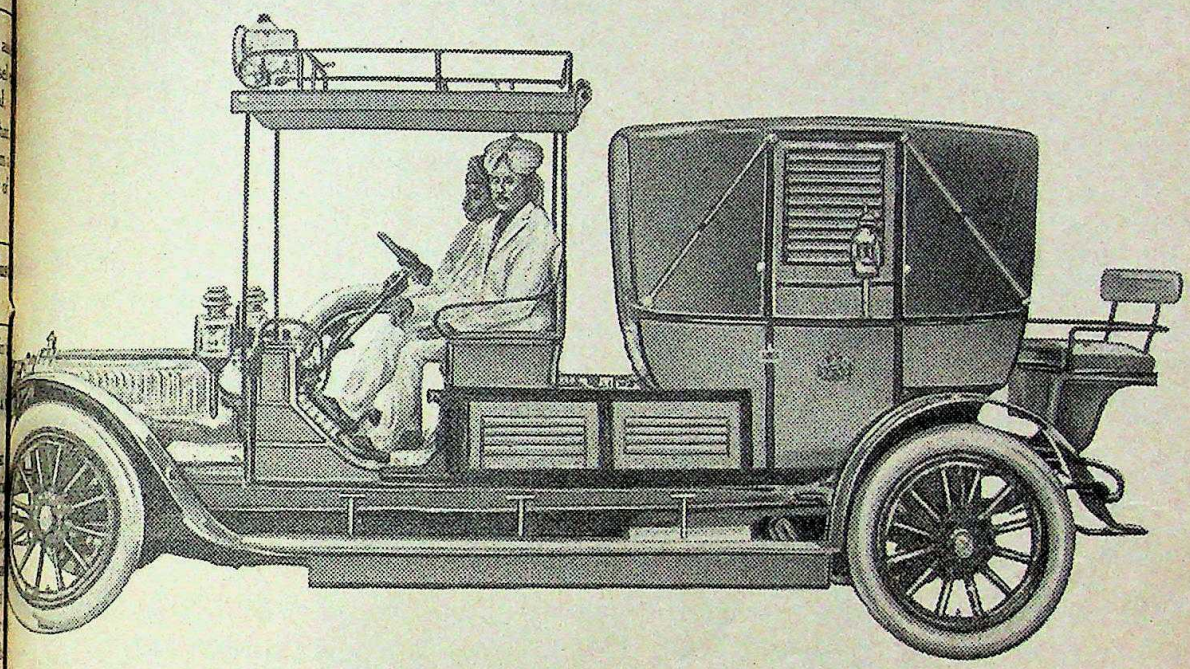


Simpson & Co. Ltd
Madras
AN AMALGAMATIONS GROUP MEMBER

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

oke the speed barrier for India.



facturing and service fields. India Pistons, Bimetal Bearings, Amco Batteries, on & Co., Speed-A-Way, Simpson & ard Finance, T. Stanes & Co., Shardlow George Oakes, Indiapistons-Repco, l & Rim Co., Stanes Amalgamated Estates en goes on.

And a product portfolio ranging from diesel es, tractors, cutting tools to batteries, ngs, forgings and diamond tools. And manufacturing interests from tea estates to transport, from printing and publishing to ultural inputs and distribution.

A vision come true. And yet growing. For can something static be forged on a nic anvil?

Growth is the glory of free enterprise. But the very foundation of free enterprise ... a reward immeasurable in words.

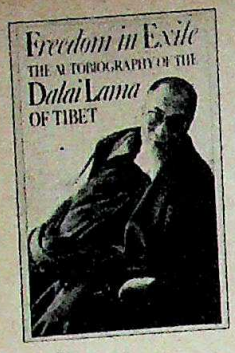
AMALGAMATIONS CELEBRATES SIMPSONS 150 YEARS 1840-1990

The spirit of enduring enterprise

Rediffusion/AMG/90/181 M

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



Freedom in Exile

The Dalai Lama is one of the most fascinating personalities on the world stage. A winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, he is the leader of several million Tibetans. In his autobiography, soon to be released in London, he traces his childhood, the annexation of Tibet, his escape into India, and his relations with the top leaders of the day. INDIA TODAY presents exclusive extracts.

In Communist China

NEXT day, so far as I can remember, I had my first, formal encounter with Chairman Mao. This was at a public meeting. As we entered the hall, the first thing I noticed was an array of spotlights that had been erected for a whole army of official photographers. Beneath these stood Mao himself, looking very calm and relaxed. He did not have the aura of a particularly intelligent man. However, as we shook hands, I felt as I was in the presence of a strong magnetic force. He came across as being very friendly and spontaneous, despite the formality of the occasion. It began to look as if the apprehension I had felt was unfounded.

In all, I had at least a dozen meetings with Mao, most of which were at large gatherings, but a few of which were held in private with no one but Phuntsog Wagyal in attendance. Whatever the occasion, he always made me sit next to him and on one occasion he even served me my food. This caused me some anxiety as I had heard a rumour that he was suffering from tuberculosis.

I found him a most impressive man. Physically he was extraordinary. His complexion was very dark, but at the same time his skin seemed shiny. It was as if he used some kind of ointment; his hands had the same curious sheen as well: they were very beautiful with perfect fingers and an exquisitely formed thumb.

I also noticed he did seem to have some difficulty with breathing and he panted a great deal. This may have had an effect on his speech, which was always very slow and precise. His mannerisms were similarly slow. If he moved his head from left to right it would take several seconds, which gave him an air of dignity and assurance.

In contrast to the distinction of his manner were his clothes, which looked completely worn out. His shirts were always thread-bare at the cuff and the jackets he wore were shabby. The only part of his attire that looked well kept were

"The attractive thing about Marxism for me is its assertion that man is ultimately responsible for his own destiny. This reflects Buddhist thought exactly."

VIJAY KRANT

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

WHY ENVIRONMENTALLY CONSCIOUS COUNTRIES GO IN FOR NUCLEAR POWER.

Contrary to the news you might read or hear, many of the environmentally conscious countries in the world depend on nuclear power significantly for their electricity generation. At present about 17% of the world's electricity is generated through nuclear sources. For example, Japan, inspite of the trauma of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945, as well as its generally high seismicity, has as many as 38 nuclear plants generating 30,000MWe. USSR, even after its 1986 Chernobyl accident, continues to operate 56 units producing 33,000MWe. And USA, despite its 1979 mishap at Three Mile Island has 110 units in operation giving 1,00,000MWe.

The conclusion to be drawn is that mishaps like Chernobyl and Three Mile Island are very rare occurrences. In actual fact, the nuclear power industry has an excellent track record of safety... which is internationally accepted.

Nuclear Power is environmentally clean.

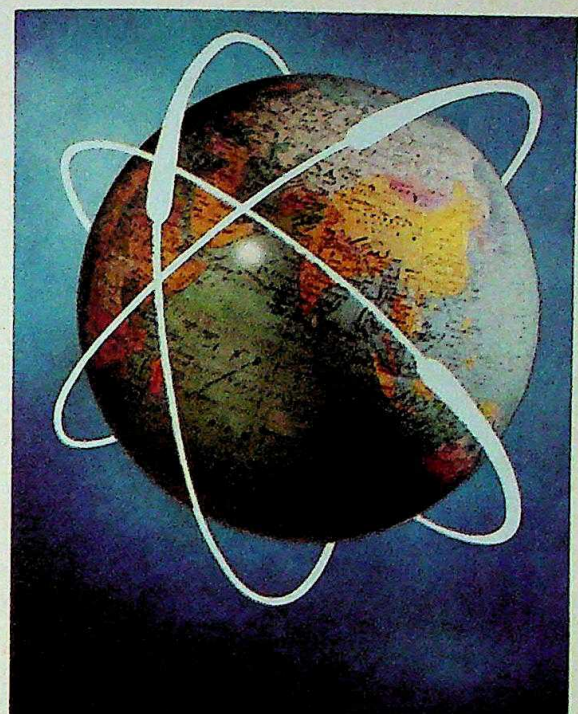
Nuclear source is clean, compact and concentrated. *Clean* – for minimal impact on the environment, compared to other commercial energy generating sources. There are no effects of acid rain due to emission of Sulphur dioxide (SO_2), Carbon dioxide (CO_2), Nitrogen oxide (NO_2), or heavy metal pollutants. The installation of nuclear power plants involves minimum land requirement and minimum displacement of local populace. *Compact* – because it is available in the form of fuel bundles, which, once loaded in the reactor core, provide energy for 1½ to 2 years at a stretch before discharge. *Concentrated* – as one kg uranium gives energy equivalent to 25,000 kg of coal even at 1% utilisation in today's first stage thermal neutron reactors. This can be stepped up to 60 to 70% utilisation in breeder reactors. Which means one kg uranium would then give energy equivalent to two million kg of coal.

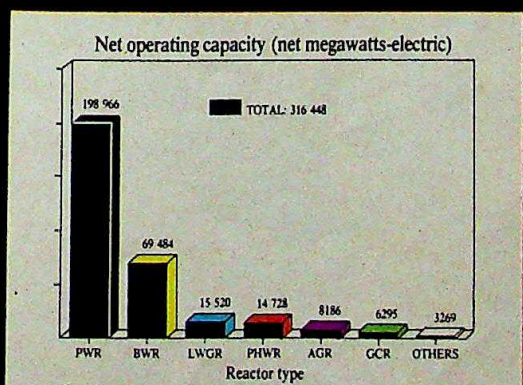
What's more, for India, it represents an additional generating source of electricity. Hydel and coal resources not being evenly distributed geographically, nuclear sources help overcome this limitation. Nuclear power plants can be installed in locations even remote from hydel and coal resources.

Reactor types in operation and under construction (as of June 30, 1989).

Nuclear reactors are classified according to the fuel, coolant and moderator used to support the nuclear chain reaction. There are mainly five types of reactors : Pressurised Water Reactors (PWR); Boiling Water Reactors (BWR); Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWR); Gas Cooled Reactors (GCR) and Liquid Metal Cooled Breeder Reactors (LMBR).

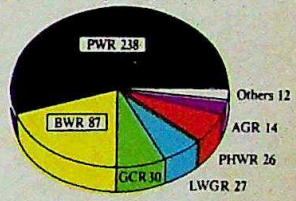
There are 434 units in operation in 26 countries with a capacity of 316,000MWe and 100 units under construction with a capacity of 80,000MWe. Typewise distribution is as follows:



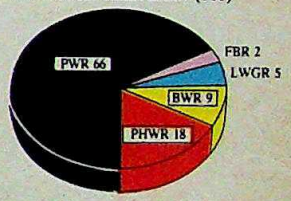


PWR – Pressurised Light-Water-Moderated and Cooled Reactor
BWR – Boiling Light-Water-Cooled and Moderated Reactor
LWGR – Light-Water-Cooled, Graphite-Moderated Reactor
PHWR – Pressurised Heavy-Water-Moderated and Cooled Reactor
AGR – Advanced Gas-Cooled, Graphite-Moderated Reactor
GCR – Gas-Cooled, Graphite-Moderated Reactor
FBR – Fast Breeder Reactor

Units in operation (434)



Units under construction (100)



Courtesy: International Atomic Energy Agency (Vienna)

NPC. Taking the nation progressively forward.

To achieve a better standard of living today and to conserve our dwindling energy reserves for future generations, we would need an optimal mix of thermal, hydel and nuclear sources for fuelling India's growth needs. India has chosen PHWR type as the mainstay of its Nuclear Power Programme because it is best suited to Indian conditions. This will help us harness the power of the atom. To achieve self-sufficiency in power generation for generations to come.

NPC. Fuelling a powerful future.

NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)

Centre No.1, 16th & 20th Floor,
World Trade Centre, Cuffe Parade,
Bombay – 400 005.

Issued for public information by the Directorate of Environment and Public Awareness – Nuclear Power Corporation.

CONTOUR-NPC-140C/90

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

BREAKING BARRIERS IN SOU

Contract Ph.269.90

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

PHILIPS

S IT POSSIBLE TO ET THIS ADVANCED VITHOUT BECOMING OMPLICATED?

PHILIPS POWERHOUSE

rtainly, as in the Philips Midi Stereo System. nsider its features:

ble Cassette Deck ■ Continuous Play and Full Automatic g Functions ■ High Speed Dubbing ■ Microphone for cordings and announcements ■ 3 Band Tuner with FM and D Pointer ■ 5 Band Graphic Equalizer to highlight your vourite instruments and voices ■ In-built Stereo Amplifier l boosts the output to a ferocious 160W PMPO ■ Matched r of Dual Cone Hi-Q Speakers ■ Capability for CD, Record yer, even a TV to be played through the system.

at's more, these features can all be operated at the touch of a tton. Child's play isn't it?

e Philips Powerhouse is available at your nearest Philips n dealer. Who'll be glad to arrange a demonstration.

NEW

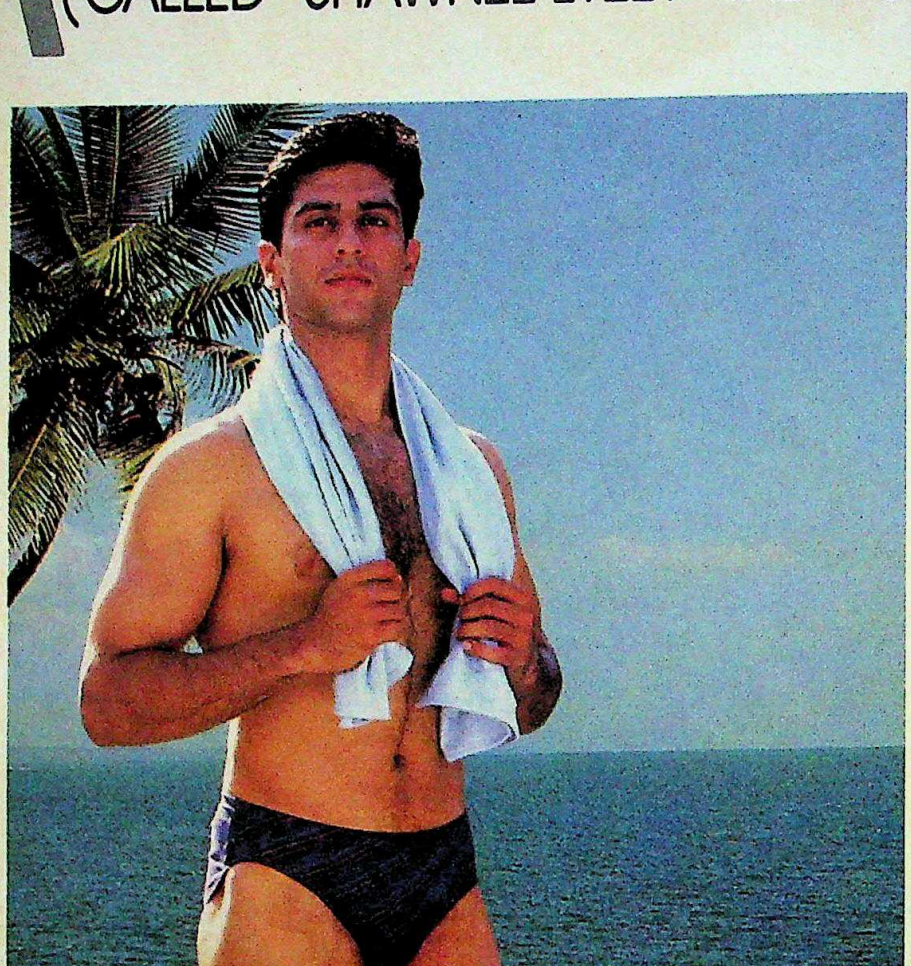
HILIPS POWERHOUSE AW606 ■ 160 W PMPO ■ Rs. 5830*

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ALL FRENCH FASHION

(CALLED "SHAWNZE LYZEY"* THE WORLD OVER)



Champs-Elysees Innerwear.

Created exclusively Devanlay, France. For me who demand the very be the world has to offer.

Made entirely out o supercombed, long stap cotton. Using the superx 'spandex' elastic band.

The result : a feel of u and comfort no other no can match.

Naturally, that makes Champs-Elysees a little m expensive. But then, aren' the kind of man who wan quality at any cost ?

For a free copy of ou colour catalogue, write t address given below.

*

CHAMPS-ELYSEES

INNERWEAR FOR MEN

ANYTHING ELSE AT BEST IS SECOND BEST

B Brought to you in India by : ASIAN KNITWEARS PVT. LTD. (A unit of the Bhilwara Group)
SIDCO Industrial Complex, Bari Brahmana, Jammu-181133.

adiyads/AK/125

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

his shoes, which were always well polished. But he did not need luxurious clothes. In spite of looking down-at-heel, he had a very emphatic air of authority and sincerity. His mere presence commanded respect. I felt, too, that he was completely genuine as well as very decisive...

We went directly to Mao's office, where he was indeed waiting for me. It was to be our last meeting. He announced that he wanted to give me some advice about government before I went back to Tibet, and proceeded to explain how to organise meetings, how to draw out people's opinions and then how to decide on key issues. It was all excellent information and I sat busily taking notes, as I always did whenever we met. He went on to tell me that communications were a vital ingredient in any form of material progress and stressed the importance of seeing to it that as many young Tibetans as possible were trained in this field. He added that whenever he passed anything on to me, he wanted to be able to do so through a Tibetan. Finally, he drew closer to me and said, 'Your attitude is good, you know. Religion is poison. Firstly it reduces the population, because monks and nuns must stay celibate, and secondly it neglects material progress.' At this I felt a violent burning sensation all over my face and I was suddenly very afraid. 'So,' I thought, 'you are the destroyer of the *Dharma* after all.'

"In spite of looking down-at-heel, Mao had a very emphatic air of authority and sincerity. His presence commanded respect."

Mr Nehru Regrets

ONE of my main discoveries about India at this point was that, although the banquets and receptions to which I was frequently invited were considerably less elaborate than those I had attended in China, the prevailing atmosphere of sincerity meant that there was an opportunity for genuine friendship to develop. This was in direct contrast to my experience in the People's Republic of China, where it seemed the received opinion was that you can change people's minds by bullying them. I could now make comparisons and see for myself that this was faulty thinking. Only through the development of mutual respect, and in spirit of truth, can friendship come about. By these means it is possible to move human minds, but never by force.

As a result, and mindful of an old Tibetan saying that a prisoner who once manages to escape should not go back, I began to consider remaining in India. I made up my mind to explore the possibility of seeking political asylum when I met with Pandit Nehru, which I did soon after.

In fact, I met with the Prime Minister on several occasions. He was a tall, good-looking man, whose Nordic features were emphasised by his small Gandhi cap. Compared with Mao, he appeared to have less self-assurance, but then there was nothing dictatorial about him. He seemed honest—which was why he was later deceived by Chou En-lai. The first time we met, I took the opportunity to explain in detail how the Chinese had invaded our peaceful land, of how unprepared we were to meet an enemy and of how hard I had tried to accommodate the Chinese as soon as I was aware that no one in the outside world was prepared to acknowledge our rightful claim to independence.

At first he listened and nodded politely. But I suppose that my passionate speech must have been too long for him and after a while he appeared to lose concentration, as if he was about to nod off. Finally, he looked up at me and said that he understood what I was saying. 'But you must realise,' he went on somewhat impatiently, 'that India cannot support you.' As he spoke in clear, beautiful English, his long lower lip quivered as if vibrating in sympathy with the sound of his voice.

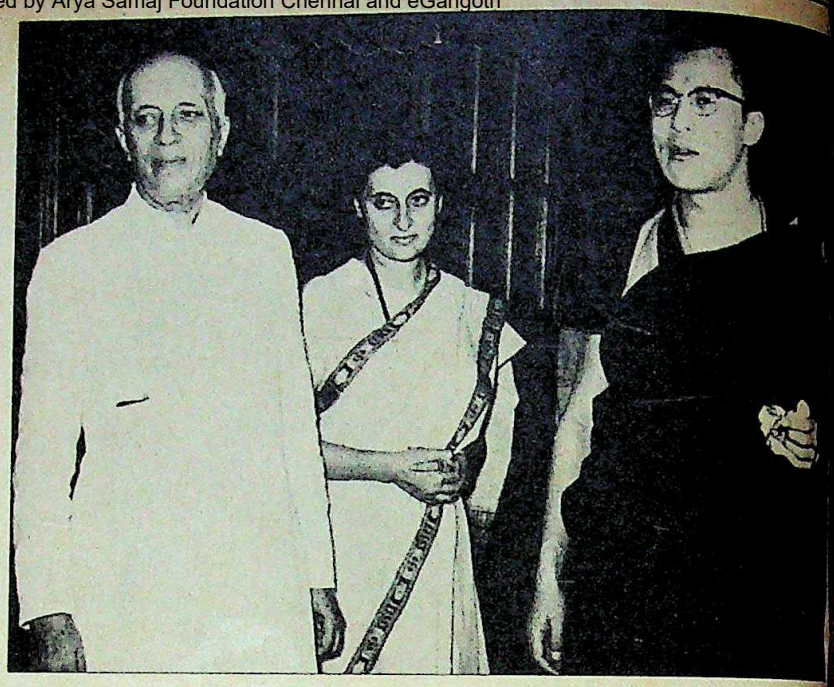
This was bad, but not entirely unexpected news. And although Nehru had now made his position clear, I continued by saying that I was considering seeking exile in India. Again he demurred. 'You must go back to your country and try to work with the Chinese on the basis of the Seventeen-Point "Agreement".' This was exasperating. I protested that I had already tried my utmost to do so, adding that every time I thought I had reached an understanding with the Chinese, they broke my trust. And now the situation in eastern Tibet was so bad that I feared a massive, violent reprisal which could end up destroying the whole nation. How could I possibly believe that the Seventeen-Point "Agreement" was workable any longer? Finally, Nehru said that he would speak on the subject personally to Chou En-lai, who was due in Delhi the very next day en route to Europe. He would also arrange for me to meet the Chinese Minister.

Nehru was as good as his word and, the following morning, I went with him to Palam airport where he arranged for me to see Chou that evening. When we met again I found my old friend just as I remembered him: full of charm, smiles and deceit. But I did not respond to his artful manners. Instead, I told him quite straightforwardly of my concern about how the Chinese authorities were behaving

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

in eastern Tibet. I also pointed out the marked difference I had noticed between the Indian Parliament and the Chinese system of government: the freedom of people in India to express themselves as they really felt and to criticise the Government if they thought it necessary. As usual, Chou listened carefully before replying with words that positively caressed the ear. 'You were present in China only at the time of the First Assembly,' he said. 'Since then, the Second Assembly has met and everything has changed immeasurably for the better.' I did not believe him, but it was useless to argue. Then he said that he had heard a rumour that I was considering staying in India. It would be a mistake, he warned. My country needed me. That was perhaps true, but I left feeling that we had resolved nothing.



"Compared to Mao, Nehru had less self-assurance, but he seemed honest—which was why Chou En-lai deceived him."

A Desperate Year

ON 24 April, Pandit Nehru himself arrived in Mussoorie. I began by telling him everything that had happened since I had returned to Tibet. I went on to say that I had done just as he had suggested and dealt fairly and honestly with the Chinese, criticising them where necessary and trying hard to keep to the terms of the Seventeen-Point "Agreement". I then explained that I had not originally intended to seek India's hospitality but that I had wanted to establish my Government at Lhuntse Dzong. Only the news from Lhasa had changed my mind. At this point he became rather irritated. 'The Indian Government could not have recognised it even if you had,' he said. I began to get the impression that Nehru thought of me as a young person who needed to be scolded from time to time.

During other parts of our conversation he banged the table. 'How can this be?' he asked indignantly once or twice. However, I went on in spite of the growing evidence that he could be a bit of a bully. Finally, I told him very firmly that my main concern was twofold: 'I am determined to win independence for Tibet, but the immediate requirement is to put a stop to the bloodshed.' At this he could restrain himself no longer. 'That is not possible!' he said in a voice charged with emotion. 'You say you want independence and in the same breath you say you do not want bloodshed. Impossible!' His lower lip quivered with anger as he spoke...

Universal Responsibility

THE truth remains that, since the Chinese invasion, over a million Tibetans have died as a direct result of Peking's policies. In its resolution on Tibet in 1965, the US stated plainly that China's occupation of Tibet has been characterised by 'acts of murder, rape and arbitrary imprisonment on a large scale'.

I remain at a loss to explain how this happened, how the noble ideas of so many became transformed into senseless barbarity. Nor can I understand what motivated those people within the Chinese leadership who actively counselled the destruction of the Tibetan race. It seems China is a country which has lost its faith, as a result of which the Chinese have themselves endured unspeakable misery over the past 41 years—all in the name of Communism.

Yet the pursuit of Communism has been one of the greatest human experiments of all time, and I do not deny that I myself was very impressed with its ideology at first. The trouble was, as I soon discovered, that although Communism claims to serve 'the people', 'the people' does not mean everyone, only those who hold views that are held by a minority to be 'the people's views'.

Some of the responsibility for the excesses of Communism rests squarely on the west. The hostility with which it greeted the first Marxist Governments accounts in part for the often ludicrous precautions they took to protect themselves. They became suspicious of everything, and suspicion causes terrible unhappiness because it goes against a fundamental human trait—namely one person's desire to trust another. I remember the absurd situation of my visit to Lenin's room in the Kremlin in 1982. I was watched over by an unsmiling guard who was clearly ready to shoot in an instant, whilst a woman guide mechanically explained the official history of the Russian Revolution.

However, in as much as I have any political allegiance, I suppose I am still half Marxist. I have no argument with Capitalism, so long as it is practised in a humanitarian fashion, but my religious beliefs dispose me far more towards Socialism and Internationalism, which are more in line with Buddhist principles. The other attractive thing about Marxism for me is its assertion that man is ultimately responsible for his own destiny. This reflects Buddhist thought exactly.

(To be published by Hodder & Stoughton, UK: Price: £14.95)

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

For the gracious people

WD & HO WILLS
GOLD FLAKE
HONEY DEW

Quality that's forever

Every genuine WILLS GOLD FLAKE cigarette bears the name W.D. & H.O. WILLS

A BRAND OWNED BY I.T.C. LTD.
MADE IN INDIA.

CLARION C-GFK-16R2

STATUTORY WARNING: CIGARETTE SMOKING IS INJURIOUS TO HEALTH

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

GREAT
INDIAN
SPIRIT

An experience called cricket.

And a scooter called Bajaj.

The first watched by millions.

The second valued by millions.

Both reflecting

the great Indian spirit.

Bajaj Scooters:
Super, Chetak, Priya and Cub.

bajaj auto

You just can't beat a bajaj

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

INDIA TODAY

SEPTEMBER 30, 1990

EXCLUSIVE EXTRACTS: SALMAN RUSHDIE'S NEW NOVEL

OPINION POLL: MANDAL REPORT BACKLASH

INDIAN REFUGEES: TRAGEDY IN THE DESERT

OIL CRISIS: COMING ECONOMIC CRUNCH

Ashwini Nachappa and Zenia Ayrton training in Bangalore

XI ASIAD

PROMISING PROSPECTS

GREAT INDIAN

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

The Silk People. He loves designer drapes. She loves daydreaming. Their walls love Luxol Silk.

Silk sheen ... silken fee

Drape your walls with Luxol Silk — the richest emulsion in the world.

BERGER Luxol Silk

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

LINTAS (CAL)/BP/LS/P2/2719

BERGER PAINT

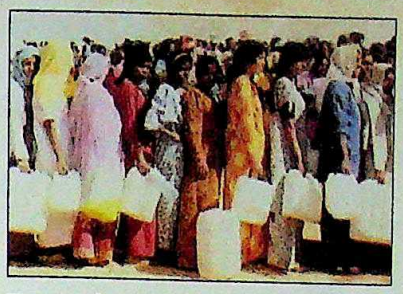
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

IN FOCUS THIS FORTNIGHT

Promising Prospects

The Beijing Asiad will once again put the spotlight on our sporting achievements and deficiencies. Our archery team and women athletes are expected to do well, and it is hoped the hockey squad will again assert its supremacy. Meantime, China, South Korea and Japan are gearing to sweep the show.

COVER STORY 74



Tragedy in the Desert

For tens of thousands of Indians the Gulf crisis has become a nightmare without end. Scrounging for food and water in makeshift camps on the Jordanian border, the refugees are in a pitiable condition. They are also angry with the Indian Government for not doing enough to alleviate their plight.

SPECIAL REPORT 22

Unleashing New Equations

The reverberations of the Mandal Commission report continue to be felt countrywide. The states have been rocked by protest and violence, and the political parties have polarised along caste and class lines. Positions harden increasingly as the people discuss the pros and cons of the move.

SPECIAL REPORT 30

The Third Shock

The threat of higher fuel prices resulting from the Gulf crisis hangs like a spectre over the Indian economy, though the extent of its impact is still not known. But one healthy consequence is that it has once again focused attention on conservation measures and alternative energy sources.

SPECIAL FEATURE 109

Moving to a New Rhythm

From a small-time musician in the coastal confines of Goa, Remo Fernandes has emerged as the country's undisputed number one pop rock star. He is also the first major artiste to write and compose music with social commitment that relates directly to the Indian reality.

MUSIC 182

Oceans of Magical Notions

From hiding, Salman Rushdie has written a book that is destined to become a children's classic. *Haroun and the Sea of Stories* operates at several levels, as fable, allegory and adventure, and can be read by children and adults alike. INDIA TODAY presents exclusive pre-publication extracts.

BOOKS 172

CONTENTS

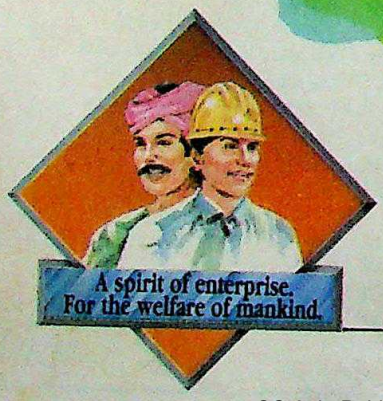
COMMENT 11
CAPITALOOK 14
INDIANOTES 20
SPECIAL REPORT
The Gulf Crisis:
Tragedy in the Desert 22
INTERVIEW OF THE FORTNIGHT
Prince Hassan:
"This is an Oilwellian crisis" 28
Reservations:
Unleashing New Equations 30
CURRENT EVENTS
Uttar Pradesh: New Tack 40
Babri Masjid: Battle Stations 40
Madhya Pradesh: Brewing Stir 46
Madhya Pradesh: Patching Up 51
Gujarat: Broken Peace 51
Tamil Nadu: Violent Mood 54
Inside Eye: Wistful Fantasies 54
Andhra Pradesh: Statue Saga 59
West Bengal: Crying Wolf 59
Bottomline: Act of Autonomy 60
CARTOONSCOPE 65
SIGN POSTS 65
STATENOTES 66
SPECIAL REPORT
Jammu & Kashmir: A Subtle Shift 70
COVER STORY
Beijing Asiad: Promising Prospects 74
PHOTO FEATURE
Chettinad: Relics of an Opulent Past 88
BUSINESS FEATURE
Kerala: Welcome the Capitalist 101
SPECIAL FEATURE
Oil: The Third Shock 109
TRADE WINDS 117
BUSINESS
The Stock-Markets:
Breaking all Barriers 118
The Thapar Group: Gearing Up 125
Businesspeak:
"Change labour legislation" 126
Telecommunications: A New Tone 131
Rural Window: Victims of Education 131
Hindustan Motors: Comeback Drive 134
The Markets: Booming On 139
THE ECONOMY MONITOR 140
DEFENCE
Indian Navy: In Choppy Waters 145
Brasstacks: Myopic Strategy 147
MEDIA
Prasar Bharati Bill:
Ambiguous Autonomy 150
SPECIAL REPORT
Arun Nehru: The Bofors Blast 152
NEIGHBOURS
Bhutan: Cracks in Paradise 159
BOOKS/EXCLUSIVE EXTRACTS
Salman Rushdie:
Oceans of Magical Notions 172
TELETALK 181
MUSIC
Remo Fernandes:
Moving to a New Rhythm 182
EYE-CATCHERS 184

Cover photograph by BHAWAN SINGH

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

A glimpse of a corporate philosophy, that holds community welfare close to the heart.



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

For a company that is over four decades old and evolving into a corporate force to reckon with, human values still remain sacred. At The Andhra Sugars, the corporate philosophy inspires us to serve society. A commitment we've honoured for over forty years.

Ever since 1952, when crushing first began in the sugar factory, the welfare of the entire community, has been a prime consideration. The Andhra Sugars has generated vast employment in the region. Both at its own industrial complexes as well as through numerous feeder and user industries. Over 150 villages and the farming community, reap a rich harvest aided by the helping hand of The Andhra Sugars. Seeds, chemicals, inputs, knowledge of cultivation methods etc., are provided to these farmers.

The Andhra Sugars has contributed significantly to the establishment of the ultra modern, Smt. Mullapudi Venkataramanamma Memorial Hospital, to benefit the people in and around Tanuku. This 200 bed hospital will expand its capacity to 400 beds. With a view to provide educational facilities to the community, The Andhra Sugars has contributed to the setting up of one of the best polytechnics in the region in terms of the quality of education. Fully equipped laboratories, hostel, library and sprawling playgrounds are some of the highlights of this polytechnic. We are proud that many meritorious students have passed through its portals. Further, high schools have also been set up near Tanuku and at Kovvur.

The Andhra Sugars has made yeoman contribution by setting up the Sri Rangaraya Medical College at Kakinada which has produced many brilliant doctors. To cater to the cultural needs of the community, The Andhra Sugars is helping in the construction of a massive library and cultural centre - Sri Mullapudi Thimmaraju Memorial Library and Cultural Centre, at Tanuku. The Cultural Centre will provide a much needed forum for the exposure of the rich cultural talent. Enlightening the people by bringing to them a glimpse of our rich cultural heritage.

For over four decades The Andhra Sugars has always believed that social betterment is a responsibility to be carried out with conviction. Small wonder that it has always fostered a spirit of enterprise. For the welfare of mankind.

THE ANDHRA SUGARS LTD.

Venkatarayapuram
Tanuku (West Godavari Dist.,) Andhra Pradesh.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

OTS/ASL/590

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

dinesh

Exclusives ▲ Suitings ▲ Co-ordinates ▲ Safaris

The choice of leading fashion houses, internationally

uthorised dealers: **AHMEDABAD:** Bansidhar Emporium • Murlidhar Emporium • Pallav • **SRINAGAR:** Bombay Selection House • Excelsior
ainment • Fancy Fabrics • Khyber Stores

(17/3)

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

CREATING A RIFT

The question of reservations has surfaced again following the Government's decision to implement the Mandal Commission's recommendations ("Dividing to Rule", September 15). It is unfortunate that even after 40 years of independence, educated youth of our country have to remain unemployed largely because they don't belong to a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe. Moreover, determining backwardness on the basis of caste will further polarise society.

Ranchi — S.M. ASHRAF

A STEP BACKWARDS

When Benazir assumed power in Pakistan it appeared as though democracy had been restored there ("Benazir Under Siege", August 31). However, her recent dismissal portends the return of the army.

New Delhi — K.V. ANIL KUMAR

■ Benazir may lose the coming election but the greater loss will be of democracy in Pakistan. Ultimately, she was Pakistan's only hope.

Ranchi — SANKALP SHAKUNT

■ It is obvious that the dismissal of the Government in Pakistan was a semi-military coup. Now everything depends upon President Ghulam Ishaq Khan's commitment to hold free and fair elections. However, it is heartening that Benazir has not lost the fighting spirit that enabled her to become the first woman prime minister of a Muslim country.

Chandigarh — DR DHIRAJ CHHIBBAR

■ It is unfortunate for the people of Pakistan that while countries like the Soviet Union, China and East Germany are breaking out of the shackles of authoritarian rule, their country is plunging into the pit of autocracy.

Amritsar — SHEMSHER B. SINGH

THE DESERT DESPOT

During the Iran-Iraq war ("In Saddam's Shadow", August 31), Iran was branded as the villain and Saddam Hussein considered the hero even though Iraq was the aggressor and openly used chemical weapons. What was our "global cop", the US, doing then? Pumping billions of dollars into the Iraqi economy. Now that Saddam has turned the same missiles against Arab and US troops, the truth has at last dawned on President George Bush.

Aligarh — S.A.M. HUSAINI

■ When Israel attacked Egypt, the US did not react. Why is such a hue and cry being raised now?

Faridabad — V.K. SHARMA

■ In precipitating the Iran-Iraq war, Saddam Hussein violated the Algiers Agreement of 1975. At that time, international, and particularly Arab, public opinion ignored his true colours because everyone wanted to see Iran humbled. Now, under the impact of the western military buildup in Saudi Arabia, Saddam has conceded the Algiers Agreement in toto. But that should not mitigate his crime of invading and annexing Kuwait.

Muzaffarpur — A. KUMAR

■ The way India has played its cards in the recent Gulf crisis is disheartening. It could have used its good offices in Iraq to play an active role in defusing the crisis. Now it has missed the bus.

Agra — SUDEEP JAIN

TARDY PROGRESS

It is strange that the press which unearthed several documents relating to the Bofors gun deal just before the November general elections ("Slow but Steady", August 31) has made such tardy progress since then.

Bombay — K. GANGADHAR

STATE OF NEGLECT

Bihar Chief Minister Laloo Prasad Yadav's efforts ("Hero Worship", August 31) to give dead leaders their due by setting up statues in their honour are commendable. However, before that is done, he must know that there are several statues which are being neglected. If his government is unable to maintain the old statues, how does it plan to look after the new ones?

Allahabad — NEERAJ BHUSHAN

MARKETING RESEARCH

In your business feature on market research organisations ("Locating the Lucrative Slot", August 31) you have missed an important consultancy organisation, Kirloskar Consultants Ltd. The market research billings of the company are about Rs 16 crore a year.

Pune — V.S. GOSAVI
Kirloskar Consultants Ltd

■ Before launching Nirma, Karsanbhai Patel did no formal market research as his information came from living in a village itself. The reason why city-based companies require formal market research is that they don't have any rural contact.

Bombay — SHEKAR LOVEKAR

SWEEPING STATEMENT

I was shocked to read D.N. Ghosh's statement ("Businesspeak", August 31) that family firms have no vision. On going through the list of companies whose shares are quoted in journals, I found very few companies that could claim to be without family management. Does Mr Ghosh dismiss the bulk of India's corporate sector as lacking in vision? Does he include the Thapars, Bajajs, Nandas, Tatas, Singhanias, Mahindras and Birlas in this sweeping statement? Professional managers have generally been excellent administrators, but when it comes to the risk-taking involved in entrepreneurship, they don't have much of a track record.

New Delhi — VIVEK AGGARWAL

POOR SPORTING SPIRIT

During the recent English tour, Bishen Singh Bedi let the Indian team

● VOLUME XV NUMBER 18: FOR THE FORTNIGHT SEPTEMBER 16-30, 1990

● EDITORIAL OFFICE LIVING MEDIA INDIA LTD. F-14/15, CONNAUGHT PLACE NEW DELHI 110001. PHONE: 331601-4. TELEX: 31-61245 INTO IN CABLE: LIVMEDIA. NEW DELHI ● SUBSCRIPTIONS: LIVING MEDIA INDIA LIMITED. POST BOX 706. FARIDABAD-121007, HARYANA ● TRADE CIRCULATION: INDIA TODAY CIRCULATION MANAGER. F-14 CONNAUGHT PLACE, MIDDLE CIRCLE, NEW DELHI. PHONE: 313076-8. TELEX: 31-62634 INTO IN ● ADVERTISING OFFICES: 28 A&B JOLLY MAKER CHAMBER II, NARIMAN POINT, BOMBAY-400021. PHONE: 2026152, 2029326, 2029435. TELEX: 11-83373 THOM IN. CABLE: LIVMEDIA. BOMBAY ● K-9, CONNAUGHT CIRCUS, NEW DELHI-110001. PHONES: 3325378, 3323576, 3321323 AND 3321273. TELEX: 31-62124 THOM IN. CABLE: LIVMEDIA. NEW DELHI ● EAGUN CHAMBERS, 26 COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF ROAD, MADRAS-600105. PHONE: 477188, 479163. CABLE: LIVMEDIA MADRAS ● 74/1 ST. MARKS ROAD, BANGALORE-560001. PHONE: 213037, 212448: CABLE: LIVMEDIA. BANGALORE ● 12C EVEREST 46C CHOWRINGEE ROAD, CALCUTTA-700016. PHONE: 225398, 221922. CABLE: LIVINMEDIA. CALCUTTA ● COPYRIGHT 1987 LIVING MEDIA INDIA LTD. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. REPRODUCTION IN ANY MANNER IS PROHIBITED. PUBLISHED BY AROON PURIE FOR LIVING MEDIA INDIA LTD. NEW DELHI AND PRINTED AT THOMSON PRESS INDIA LTD. FARIDABAD HARYANA ● INDIA TODAY DOES NOT TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR RETURNING UNSOLICITED PUBLICATION MATERIAL ●

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

INDIA
TODAY
INTERNATIONAL EDITION

GIFT INDIA TO SOMEONE YOU CARE FOR...

GIFT FOR _____
ADDRESS _____
_____
CITY _____ CODE _____
COUNTRY _____

Please send one year's subscription of *INDIA TODAY*, International Edition and my gift card to the person named above. Enclosed is my cheque*/DD*/(add Rs. 5/- for outstation cheques, ie. outside Delhi) for Rs._____

payable to Living Media India Ltd.

MY NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
_____
_____

Send this advertisement and payment to
Living Media India Ltd.
P.B. No. 706,
Faridabad 121 007

Annual Airmail Subscription Rates

Rs. 365 BANGLADESH, BHUTAN, NEPAL

Rs. 850 ALL OTHER COUNTRIES

*Cheques/Bank Drafts payable at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras must be MICR only.

down by not supporting it while the Lord's Test match was in progress ("Runs and Rivalries", August 31). He appears to have forgotten the 1977-78 Pakistan series fiasco when he chose to bowl at a critical juncture resulting in the defeat of the Indian side.

New Delhi — S. PRABHAKAR

■ Sunil Gavaskar's decision to turn down the honorary MCC membership was purely a personal one. Bedi has no right to comment on it.

Bangalore — UMA RAGHAVAN

STAR STRUCK

Your article ("Making it to the Top", August 31) attributes Madhuri Dixit's success to her dancing and not her potential for serious acting. However, the phenomenal success of her recent films proves that she has tremendous talent and has clearly outshone all her rivals.

Hyderabad — B. VENKAT RAMIAH

ANNOYING ALLITERATION

Your choice of the term 'Rasputin' to describe Deenbandhu Baba ("Eye-catchers", August 31) is most unfortunate. I appreciate the lure of alliteration and 'Rasputin and Rapunzel' does have a certain magnetism. But the thoughtless use of imagery demonstrates insensitivity.

New Delhi — INDI RANA

MISTAKEN IDENTITY

In the eye-catcher on weight-lifter N. Kunjarani Devi (August 31), the photograph of Jyotsna Dutta, Asia's number two weight-lifting champion, has been used instead of Kunjarani's.

Bangalore — N. INAOCHA SINGH

■ *The error is regretted.*

—Editor

IN POOR TASTE

I was irked by the blatant misuse of the word 'Muslims' when you actually meant 'Muslim fundamentalists' ("The Battered Victor", August 15). There is a large population among Indian Muslims which is secular and do not believe in making an issue out of the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid dispute. This ill-defined usage displays a lack of sensitivity and professionalism.

Texas, US — YASIR RAWJEE

NO FOREIGN CHICKS

We wish to clarify that Venkateshwara Hatcheries Ltd has not imported even a single Grandparent chick since 1980-81 ("Laying Gold", August 15). All our requirements of parent stocks have been met by indigenous production from our own Pureline Breeding Farms. Therefore, the question of evasion of duty or violation of any foreign exchange regulations does not arise. The DRI team which visited our operations has not found anything damaging or incriminating as erroneously reported in the press.

Venkateshwara Hatcheries, which has done pioneering work in the field of poultry development in India, scrupulously adheres to the policies and laws laid down by the Government.

Pune — SATISH VYAS
Public Relations Manager

CONFLICTING VIEWS

Your article ("Struggling to Survive", July 31) claims that Tun Salleh Abas is an Indian. Whatever his ethnic origin, the former Lord President was removed by the king for judicial misbehaviour on the findings of a tribunal of senior judges from Malaysia and abroad. To say that he was removed because he is an Indian is really a gross misrepresentation.

The largest poor community in Malaysia remains the Malays and not the Indians. In fact it is incorrect to say that Indians in Malaysia are marginalised. Also, the Malaysian Indian community is more than adequately represented in the Cabinet and all other areas.

New Delhi — S. RAJENDRAN, *Counsellor (Information), High Commission for Malaysia*

■ *No mischief was intended in the reference to Tun Salleh Abas's being a person of Indian origin. It was merely stated that he had to retire prematurely to make way for a Malay. The article mentions that a section of Indians in Malaysia immigrated to that country centuries ago and are today fully integrated with the bumiputra society. Abas can be said to belong to that section.*

It was never the intention to claim that Indians are being 'marginalised' in Malaysia. It has been stated that while Indians are becoming politically more influential and doing well in certain professions, in economic terms, the ethnic Indian community as a whole has not prospered to the extent other communities have in Malaysia.

—Editor

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

What did the Skypak Man say to Kalidasa?
"How about a contemporary classic on a courier who's faster than clouds?"

We'll deliver. Wherever on earth. SKYPAK The worldwide couriers.
Skypak House, Off M. Vassanji Road, Marol, Andheri (E), Bombay 400 059.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Avenues:SC:572:90R

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

In its warp, In its weft, In its weav

Indi

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Ahmedabad • Bangalore • Baroda • Bombay • Calcutta • Chandigarh • Coimbatore • Delhi • Ernakulam • Gorakhpur • Hyderabad • Imphal • Jaipur • Madu • Patna • Ranchi

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

India lives.

handloom house

Sarees • Dress Material • Readymades
Furnishings • Carpets • Bed, Bath & Table Linen

Patna • Ranchi • Secunderabad • Surat • Vijayawada • Vishakhapatnam

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Interact:AIH:286

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Swissair Customer Portrait: Harry Singh and family, Industrialist.

For the holidaying Singhs, Swissair's excursion fare is just the ticket for a joy ride. When Harry Singh plans his fa vacation, Swissair gets it off to a flying start. At an affordable fare, the Singhs are pampered in true Swissair style. With meals served on real china with real cutlery, a wide selection of beverages, a variety of magazines and newspapers as as 8-channel stereo entertainment from classical to jazz to pop. So whether you're going to Europe or the Far E Swissair's excursion fare, as Harry Singh and family would tell you, is just the right beginning for a memorable vacati

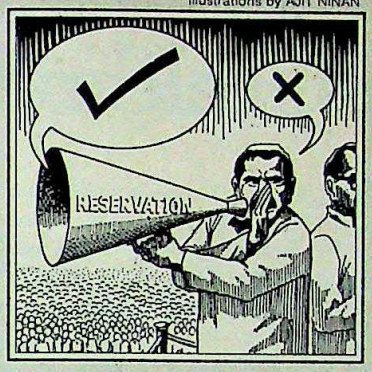
For details call your IATA travel agent or the nearest Swissair office:
AHMEDABAD 449149 • BANGALORE 211983 • BOMBAY 2872210 • CALCUTTA 444643 • COCHIN 360380 • DELHI 3325511 • HYDERABAD 211144 • KATHMANDU 222452 • MADRA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Great Indian Doublespeak

Illustrations by AJIT NINAN



EVEN if V.P. Singh, Ram Vilas Paswan and Sharad Yadav are to be condemned for stoking the fires of sectarian hatreds, for ladling out a simplistic palliative—reservations—for the economic woes of the people, they cannot be accused of speaking from both sides of their mouths. Right or wrong, you know where they stand.

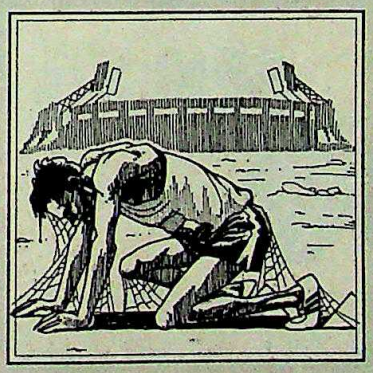
But what about their other party colleagues? And what about the stalwarts of the Bharatiya Janata Party and Congress(I)? In private, senior members of the Janata Dal as well as of other parties will say, oh, it's a terrible thing that V.P. Singh has done, and even secretly wish success to the the anti-reservation movement. But in public, they continue to skirt the real issues as the Congress(I) has done with its self-styled "Rajiv Gandhi formula". If V.P. Singh is to be chastised for having acted irresponsibly and immorally by putting the interests of a vote bank above the national interest, then his closet critics deserve condemnation by that same harsh judgement. For their doublespeak is a posture calculated to preclude upsetting their own chances of making a grab for that same vote bank. If it exists.

This is a wretched display of cynicism. There are times when the country needs disinterested leadership in the public interest instead of partisan gamesmanship. Not all politicians can become statesmen or leaders. But this is a time when opportunity beckons politicians of conscience to rise above the meanness and drudgery of their routines and to take a stand that will set them apart.

But that's asking for the moon. Even the self-professed champions of secularism have sacrificed their ideals at the altar of communal politics—the Congress(I) with its double-stand on the Babri Masjid controversy, and the Communists with their alliance with the Muslim League in Kerala. What doesn't produce votes just doesn't count. For example, birth control, considered so fundamental to real economic growth, is nobody's political baby, despite the fact that its implementation would probably do more for the economic advancement of the backward than the visionary gains postulated by the reservations policy. But in a capitulation to fundamentalist fears, no party champions that cause. Sadly, it is an issue without a vote bank.

The Indian politician has been singularly loath to take a real stand on anything on merit. His crinkled snout is always out sniffing for the sickening stench of immediate political gain. And it is for this reason that he has never been able to articulate the national interest and grow into a leader. He is too busy making the world safe for hypocrisy.

Stars as Pawns



FOUR decades ago, when the first Asiad was held, it was quite natural that the continent's greatest sporting spectacle should be initiated by India, in New Delhi, and inaugurated by Jawahar Lal Nehru whose initials still adorn the capital's showpiece stadium named after him. Nehru's was a resurgent India, moving forward after centuries of subjugation as was much of the rest of Asia. In subsequent years if there is one field in which India has slipped woefully behind even the standards of a continent it sought to lead and inspire, it is sport.

Thus it is not with an anticipation of joy and pride that an Indian looks forward to the 11th Asiad, beginning in Beijing this fortnight. An Usha will perhaps still bring home a few medals defying age, form and aching heels. A Bahadur Prasad will perhaps still manage to stay ahead of the field. If all the Indian prayers are answered, perhaps the hockey team will play to its true potential and bag the gold. Yet, even after adding a few more pickings from boxers, wrestlers and the like it will be a miserable tally. Aeons behind not only China, a nation India has always considered to be a rival politically, culturally and ideologically but also the Koreas, Japan and Thailand.

Why is it that one-sixth of humanity cannot produce even a half-dozen Asian champions? Why is it that despite the infusion of facilities, despite substantial increase in corporate funding and despite foreign coaches, nothing lifts Indian sport out of mediocrity?

Some of the answers lie in the way sport is managed in the country. In the name of autonomy management of individual sport—indeed even the august Indian Olympic Association—has been reduced to an exercise in cheap careerism and junketeering by officials and politicians. No one even seems interested in achieving that vital interface between the infrastructure and talent that wrote fairy-tale success stories in the Koreas, GDR and China.

Today in terms of resources Indian sport managers cannot have many complaints. Even athletics, the mother of all sport which forever seemed to have the Cinderella status in India, is rolling in money thanks to the enterprise of a politician-cum-impresario. What must change now is the mindset that weighs both the sportsmen and managers down to mediocrity. For too many Indian sportsmen the pinnacle of glory is a ticket to a foreign meet. The hunger for victory that drives athletes to clip that microsecond which separates champions from also-rans is missing. Without that motivation the sad slide backwards will continue.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

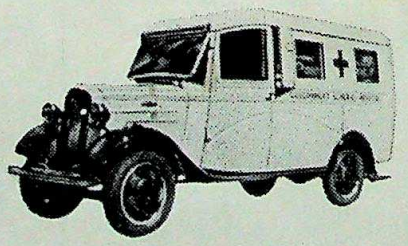
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Let's celebrate the compan

When Simpsons introduced automobiles in India, the concept of mass transportation had already been a reality for years. But across *water* and by *rail*.

The concept of mass transportation by road, on the scale and speed proposed by Simpsons, was revolutionary. The first Simpson-built buses were, by today's standards, slow and ungainly – but they moved people and goods ... and brought a revolution in their wake.

Despite the hills and the heartbreaks, Simpsons gallantly ploughed on. Metal body buses to suit the climate. Coal devices for engines to overcome wartime fuel shortages. Trucks to transport goods – and water. Personnel carriers for the military – and India's earliest specialised motor ambulances.



Simpsons even built and maintained the roads that these machines needed to run on !

Truly, Simpsons helped India roll ahead.

Simpsons today

From crafting horse-drawn carriages, to mass passenger and goods transportation, to manufacturing diesel engines sought after for vehicular, agricultural, industrial and marine applications. That, in a nutshell, is the saga of Simpsons – from a company of artisans to a prime mover of industry.

Simpsons : the moving force

A group of companies with a firm commitment to transportation for the individual and society. Producing the dozens of critical components required to move people and material speedily and safely.

To make Madras the Detroit of India was the dream of industrialist Anantharamakrishna and Amalgamations ... and Simpsons the vehicle that took it to fulfilment. Using the experience and understanding of a century, to seed a complex of companies manufacturing critical automotive components.

Aided in this era of progress by collaborations with a roster of world renowned corporations from Europe, the USA and Australia – Perkins, Massey Ferguson, T&T Group, United Engineering & Forgings, Vi Moppes, Clevite and Repco. A roster in recent times expanded to include Yuasa, NPR, NOK Oils and Fats of Japan, SAFT of France and Bookers of the UK.

Amalgamations : mass transportation and more

A Rs.720-crore, 29-company conglomerate involved in the automotive and other sectors. Bimetal Bearings, TAFE, Addison & Co., T. Stanes & Co., India Pistons, Amco Batteries, Amalgamations Repco, Speed-A-Way, Associated Publishers, Stanes Motors, Stanes Tyre & Rubber, Sri Rama Vilas Service, Wallace Cartwright, Madras Advertising Company ... the list goes on.

And a product portfolio ranging from engines, tractors, and piston assemblies to crankshafts, clutch products and cutting tools. And non-manufacturing interests from tyre retreading, advertising, hire-purchase / lease

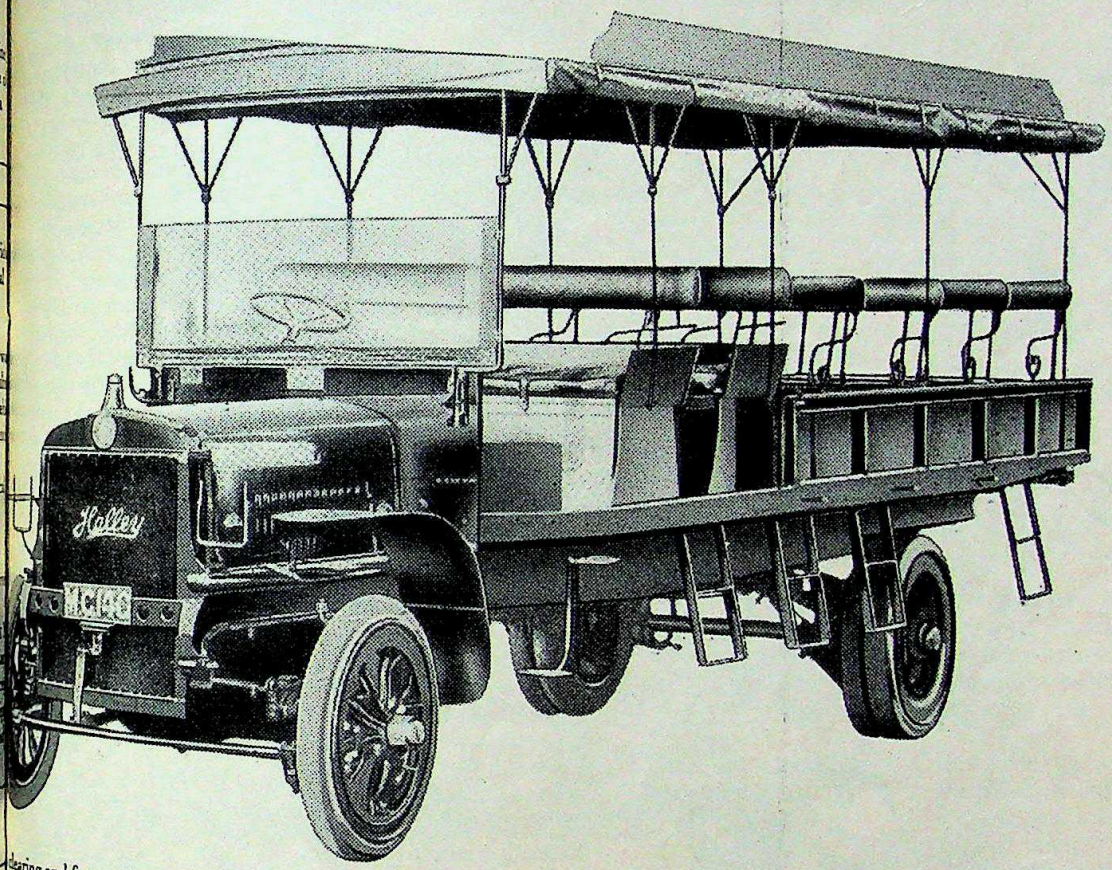
Simpson & Co. Ltd
Madras

AN AMALGAMATIONS GROUP MEMBER

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

hat helped India catch the bus.



ehaving and forwarding, and distribution of
hicles and automotive parts.

A vision come true. And yet growing. For
w can something static be forged on a
namic anvil ?

To predict the future is exhilarating. But to
ually engineer the reality ... that is a reward
measurable in words.

AMALGAMATIONS CELEBRATES SIMPSONS 150 YEARS 1840-1990

The spirit of enduring enterprise

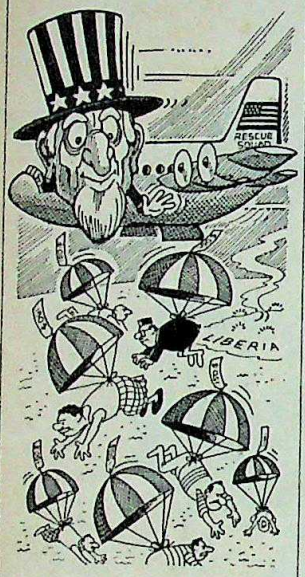
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Rediffusion/AMG/90/182 M

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Money Matters

● Like Shylock, Uncle Sam's gotta have his pound of flesh, no matter what. Last month the Indian Government was heaping praise on the United States armed



forces—however, the praise was not for what they were doing in the troubled Middle East, but for what they had achieved in war-torn Liberia.

In a daring night-time rescue mission involving some 13 shuttles, two US Super Sea Stallion helicopters lifted 160 Indians, who were stranded in Monrovia, from the compound of the American embassy, and ferried them to safety to Sierra Leone. The helicopters carrying the rescued Indians, which took off from aircraft carriers, were received by obviously-relieved embassy officials at Freetown who had arrived complete with garlands and all.

But thanks is obviously not enough. Or as the Americans say, there ain't no such thing as a free lunch, baby. Last fortnight, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) received what was perhaps the strangest and probably most unexpected document in a long time. A bill from Washington for services rendered to the rescued Indians of Liberia: $150 per person. That's free market enterprise for you, American style.

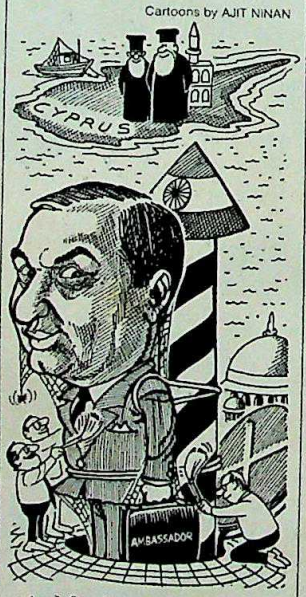
Enforced Exile

● Time was when G. Parthasarathy, the swanky foreign service officer, was among India's most powerful bureaucrats. As a joint secretary in the PMO under Rajiv Gandhi, "Partha" wielded clout far beyond his official designation.

The curtain fell with Rajiv's defeat. V.P. Singh's officials, believing that Partha had associated himself too closely with the *ancien regime*, sidelined him to a do-nothing job in the MEA.

But the period in limbo is now ending. Partha has been appointed high commissioner to Cyprus. So has he been rehabilitated? Well, not quite. Because the Rajiv regime, had it returned to power, had bigger things in

Cartoons by AJIT NINAN



mind for him—a posting to Moscow or Washington.

Tea-ing Off

● They're hammering away at Rajiv Gandhi, and he's having a ball. The ousted prime minister seems to have realised that one of his biggest failings was his

refusal to see how badly he'd been cut off from the people by his palace guard.

But what he lost out on while in office he's trying to make up for in the wilderness by inviting groups of reporters to sock-it-to-him in specially arranged tea sessions. Recently he met a half-dozen of the capital's leading foreign correspondents for an unprecedented two-and-a-half hour session. It was a no-holds-barred affair, mostly off the record, where he was grilled on subjects ranging from Bofors to Babri Masjid. Also present were former foreign ministers, Natwar Singh and Dinesh Singh.

Things went so swimmingly that one correspondent invited Rajiv to his house for dinner. And he accepted immediately.

Mandal Mania

● Mandal, wherever he is, must be laughing up a belly-ache at his report's crazy consequences. Last week, a delegation of youths from Baghpat, Industry Minister Ajit Singh's constituency, called at his residence. They were Jats who, ironically, had participated in a pro-Mandal rally in the capital. Jats do not figure in Mandal's list of the chosen people.

And this probably hit home. Realising they'd taken part in a demonstration against their own interests, the Jat youths told Ajit Singh that after the reserved category of jobs are given to the OBCs, the leftovers would be hogged by the traditionally brainy Brahmins and Kayasthas leaving the traditionally brawny Jats out in

the cold.

Ajit Singh couldn't deny their logic. But he passed the buck by referring them to Ram Avdhesh Singh, a Bihar MP at the forefront of the pro-Mandal campaign. Avdhesh, a Yadav, offered this piece of advice: the only way out was to press for a fresh commission a la Mandal to chalk out reservations for them. To be called son of Mandal.

TAIL PIECE

In the beginning there used to be TINA: There Is No Alternative (to Rajiv Gandhi).

This in a couple of years gave way to SITA: Singh Is The Alternative.

And now putting in an appearance is RAITA: Rajiv Again Is The Alternative.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

er. And he
iately.

Mania

erever he is,
g up a belly-
port's crazy
ast week, a
ouths from
ry Minister
nstituency,
dence. They
ironically,
in a pro-
the capital.
in Mandal's
people.
obably hit
g they'd
demonstra-
own inter-
hs told Ajit
he reserved
re given to
vers would
e tradition-
hmins and
g the tradi-
Jats out in

dn't deny
passed the
them to
h, a Bihar
of the pro-
Avdhesh,
is piece of
y out was
commis-
chalk out
em. To be
al.

Think Smart with NESCAFÉ.

TSA-D/NES/6290

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

REMEMBER WHAT THE WALKMAN WAS TO SONY.

Ten years ago, it was just an idea. But the idea was so big in its simplicity that it became a new way of life. All over the world.

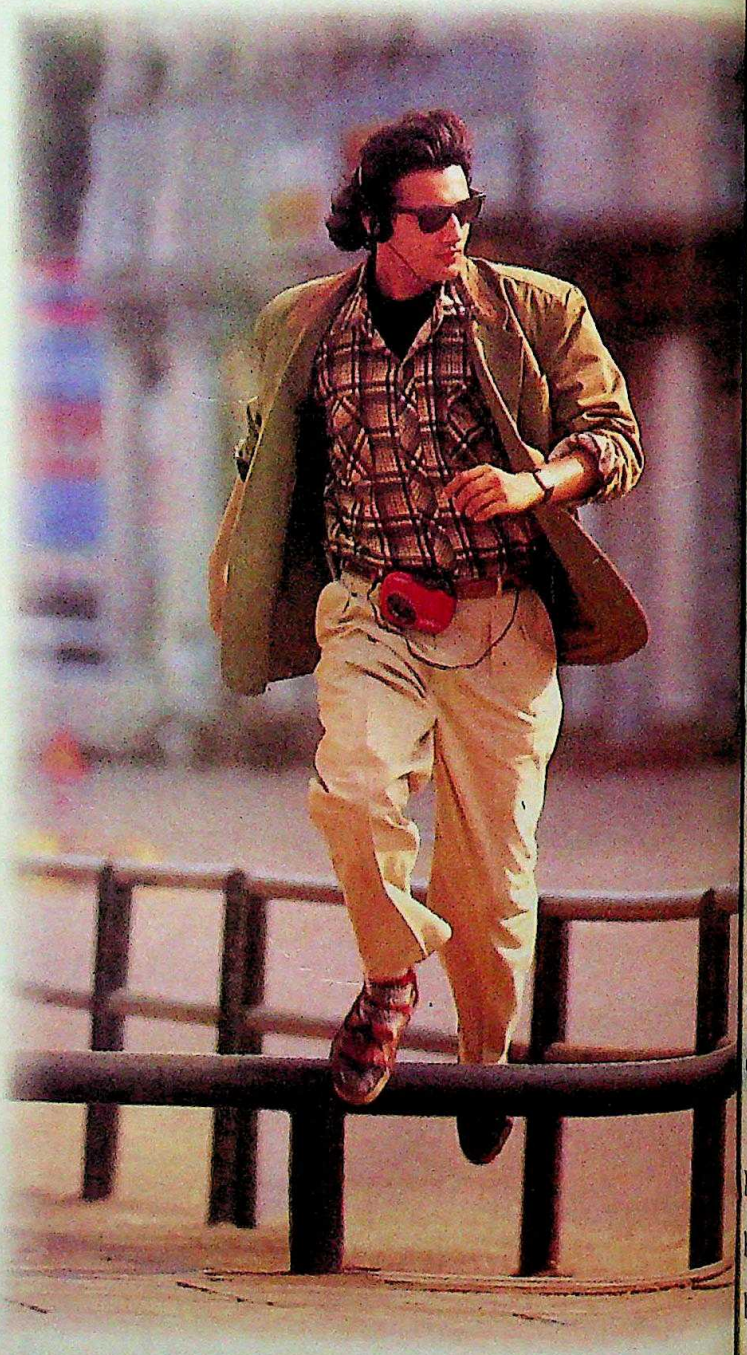
The Walkman was the brainwave of Sony chairman, Akio Morita. And it's a classic Japanese example of applying creativity to technology.

But Sony is not the only one to have creative chairmen.

Our story begins in the year 1922, with a young man of 16 beginning life as an apprentice mechanic.

His name : Soichiro Honda.

By the time he was 21, he had garnered enough experience to set up his motor repair shop.



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

With the passage of time, his horizon widened. Young Honda enrolled in the Hamamatsu Technical School, not for a degree, but for knowledge. (In between he enjoyed life as a dare-devil racing driver).

The War shattered a lot of dreams for Japan and the young man; but in the aftermath of the desolation, an idea was born.

He scrounged an ex-army two-stroke engine, and fitted it to a bicycle. In an environment of fuel shortage, it proved a success. (The irony of a two-stroke being fuel-efficient!)

But the Honda Motor Company, which had now come into being, sought to make things better, and cleaner, and dependable.

The big idea was born in August 1958. A 50cc, four-stroke ohc single-cylinder motorcycle was launched. Aptly called the Super Cub, this little wonder put Honda Motors on the world map. Many claim that Honda put motorcycling back on America's roads.

(Remember the line 'You meet the nicest people on a Honda'?).

At the last count, over 26 million of these 4-stroke engine bikes (with relevant modifications) have been sold world-wide.

IN INDIA, IT HAS PROVED TO BE A GOOD THING GOING.

The Hero Honda CD 100 is the country's most popular motorcycle. That classic 4-stroke engine lives up to the promise of being the most fuel-efficient, the most clean and the most dependable.

A product of quality that has notched up over 400,000 owners in a short span of five years; and adding 10,000 every month.

So much so, that it's become a part of our daily lives. Or, as Mr. Morita might say : 'The Walkman of motorcycles'.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

COME HOME TO GREEN SERENE

It's the end of your day.
Come away from the heat, tension and strain.
To lush and serene Alipore. A mere two kilometre drive from Calcutta's business centres. To a green welcome, of whispering shrubs and trees; the scent of flowers and a blue, blue pool. Come home to where it's calm and soothing. To Taj Bengal.

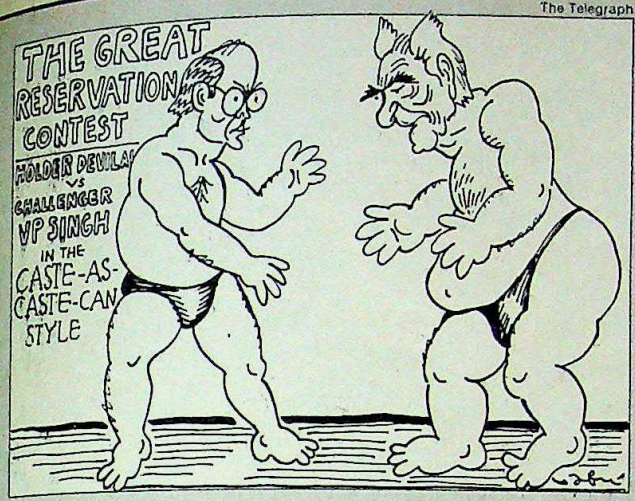
Taj Bengal
Calcutta India

A whole new experience

THE TAJ GROUP OF HOTELS

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

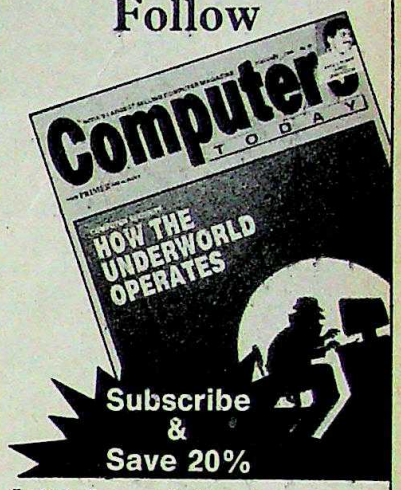


- *If I am killed my body should be kept here in Punjab.* ■ V.P. SINGH
- *An election (in Punjab) in the present circumstances would be an anti-national act.* ■ BUTA SINGH in *The Week*
- *Governments may come and go, V.P. Singh has become immortal.* ■ RAM VILAS PASWAN in *The Week*
- *Devi Lal would have made a better prime minister than V.P. Singh.* ■ CHANDRA SHEKHAR in *Sunday*
- *I can never even dream of opposing him (V.P. Singh).* ■ DEVI LAL in *Probe India*
- *Radicalism of the Hindu psyche is to some extent reactive to rising Islamic fundamentalism.* ■ DR KARAN SINGH in *Asia Week*
- *I am not a politician; I'm a dreamer.* ■ N.T. RAMA RAO in *The Independent*
- *They (the Government) are bartering our culture for guns.* ■ HABIB TANVIR, theatre personality in *The Times of India*
- *I don't understand why we should hold the country to ransom in our petty squabbles.* ■ ARUN NEHRU in *Frontline*
- *It was a good idea to edit Khula Manch.* ■ P. UPENDRA in *The Telegraph*
- *ULFA has links with J&K ultras.* ■ GEORGE FERNANDES in *Newstime*
- *I don't think the Indian cricket team needs a cricket manager.* ■ MOHAMMAD AZHARUDDIN in *The Hindu*
- *All the women in India want to seduce him (Sachin Tendulkar).* ■ BISHEN SINGH BEDI in *Sportsworld*
- *What is life but a series of inspired follies.* ■ SHASHI KAPOOR in *Cine Blitz*
- *I have double standards. I should have been a man.* ■ AMRITA SINGH in *Movie*

KEEP TRACK

of the Computer Revolution

Follow



India's Largest Selling Computer magazine **COMPUTERS TODAY** is relied upon by the whole computer community for its:

- Coverage of the latest developments in India and abroad, in a lucid style.
- Authentic writing on technology/market trends—What's working well, how?; and what's not, why?
- Hot news of men and machines that matter
- Accent on user experiences—successes and pitfalls

If you are even remotely connected with computers in your business or profession, or just a technology enthusiast, **Computers Today** is for you. To read and stay up-to-date.

Book your annual subscription today and save 20%. Just mail your cheque/demand draft * for Rs. 115 (add Rs. 5 for outstation cheques, i.e. outside Delhi) along with your name and address to:*

LIVING MEDIA INDIA LTD.,
P.O. Box 706, Faridabad-121007.
From the Publishers of
INDIA TODAY

Computers TODAY

You could turn obsolete without it!

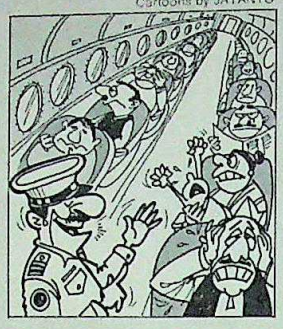
*Cheques/Bank Drafts payable at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras must be MICR only.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Cartoons by JAYANTO

ORDEAL BY AIR



■ Indian Airlines pilots are usually anonymous figures, who make brief announcements over the public address system. But one IA pilot proved more loquacious, bombarding passengers with incessant chatter. What caused greater anxiety was his line of in-flight patter—hardly designed to create confidence.

Our hero was operating the Bangalore-Delhi flight last month which was delayed due to inclement weather. Finally, it took off while it was still raining. Soon after, the pilot made this startling announcement: "I am not used to flying in the monsoon. But I think all Indian pilots should get used to flying in the monsoon."

His next gem: "As you know, our country is facing an oil crisis. We've already consumed tonnes of oil, but don't worry, we have enough to reach Delhi."

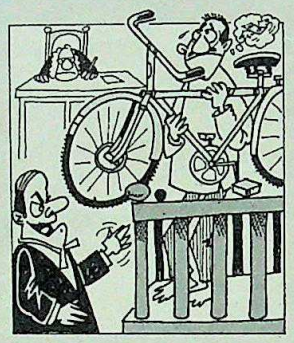
At which point, most of the passengers closed their eyes and started to pray.

WHEELS OF JUSTICE

■ The common man's vehicle—the bicycle, never proved so expensive. When a bicycle was stolen from a Delhi resident recently, instead of going through the hassles of lodging a complaint, he simply went and bought a new one.

Unfortunately for him, the thief was apprehended, and the old cycle traced back to him. A summons to the police station followed where he was ticked off for failing to lodge a complaint.

He was then ordered to file an FIR, following which began the court proceedings. At each hearing, he had to appear with his cycle—as evidence against



the thief. As the court was not within cycling distance, he was forced to use an auto-rickshaw. Each day's proceedings cost him Rs 50.

The bicycle thief is yet to receive punishment, and with the wheels of justice continuing to move in slow motion, the innocent owner is already poorer by several hundred rupees.

TABLES TURNED

■ Thieves passing judgement on their victims? That's exactly what happened when two thieves broke into the adjoining houses of two journalists and stole clocks from one and money from the other.

The next day the thieves were apprehended and their goods confiscated by the police. The first scribe immediately used his considerable influence to retrieve his stolen property. Fortunately or unfortunately for him, the money stolen from the second house was also dutifully returned to him.

A short while later, the second journalist hotfooted it down to the station to claim his money. An argument ensued, as the first gentleman had conveniently pocketed the money. Since neither would admit that the money was not his, the police turned the tables on them and asked the thieves to sit in judgement.

The thieves wound up delivering a verdict rather than receiving one.

DOG DELEGATION

■ Agitations and protest marches are commonplace these days. Bangalore, however, recently witnessed a rather unusual demonstration when hundreds of delicately bred dogs joined paws to champion the cause of the underdog—literally.

With pedigrees that run a mile long and breeding certificates that would put their masters' noses out of joint, the sharp-toothed delegation definitely meant business. Demanding more humane treatment of their stray brethren, the doggies, chaperoned by concerned masters, woofed and barked

their way into the hapless mayor's residence.

Hounded by accusations from the pampered poodles and other cossetted canines, the mayor had no other choice than to agree to consider their pet-ition.

Obviously their bark proved to be more effective than their bite.

WEIGHTY CRIME

■ High-tech electronic security systems are not new to banks, although even today some small banks still rely on heavy safes and lockers.

But even the heaviest safe can't always be banked upon, as a cooperative bank

in Aurangabad recently found to its embarrassment.

The officials of the bank had great faith in their vault system—namely a safe that weighed over 600 kgs.

One morning the officials arrived at the bank, only to find that their colossal safe had vanished. Some enterprising dacoits had hit upon the ingenious idea of carrying the entire safe, with almost Rs 3 lakh in it, straight out of the bank.

The case remains unsolved and the modus operandi of the burglars is still a mystery. Obviously, the thieves have discovered the formula of turning base metal into gold.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

BINATONE CD 2000 SERIES.

Designed to break the sound of silence

Tune into Binatone's latest hi-fi stereo systems.

For sound reproduction that took Europe & Japan by storm.

So, whether it's the soul-stirring melody of the guitar. Or the pulsating beat of the drums. Don't just play it by ear.

See and hear the latest CD 2000 series hi-fi systems at your nearest Binatone dealer.

MODEL	PMPO	PRICE*
CD 2003	180 Watts	Rs. 6160/-
CD 2004	150 Watts	Rs. 5700/-
CD 2005	350 Watts	Rs. 7725/-
CD 2005 Tower	350 Watts	Rs. 9090/-

*Local Taxes and Levies as applicable.

Model shown above is CD 2003

Binatone

SIMPLY YEARS AHEAD

ENGLAND • GERMANY • HONG KONG • JAPAN • KOREA • TAIWAN • NOW IN INDIA.

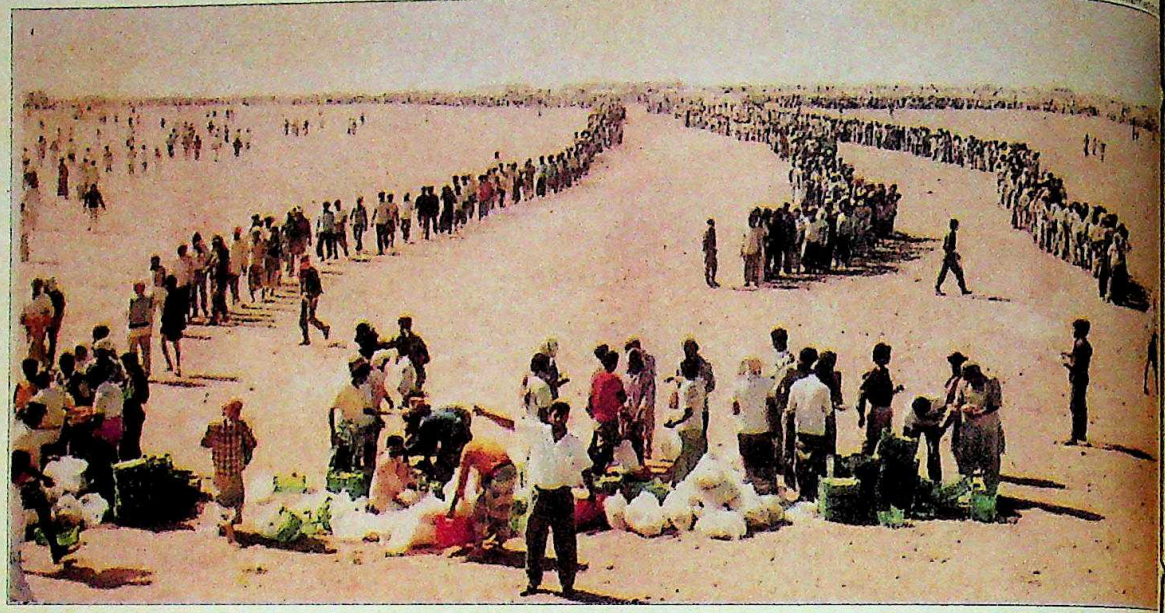
For more information contact nearest Binatone dealer or write to Binatone Electronics Ltd. B-58, Site IV, Sahibabad Industrial Area, Sahibabad-201 010 (U.P.)

Arms Bozell/BEL/22/90

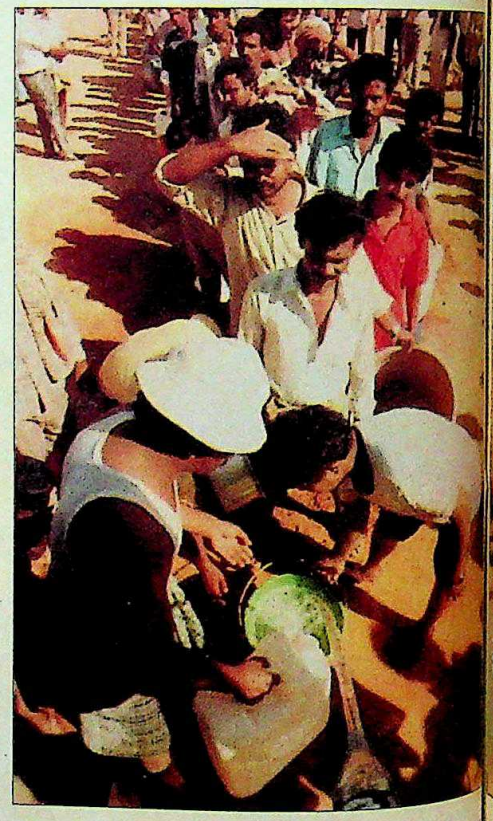
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Photographs by Syndication Internat



Refugees at the Sha'alaan Camp lining up for food; and (right) queueing up for water: deprivation and despair



GULF CRISIS

Tragedy in the Desert

For thousands of Indians stranded on the Jordanian border succour remains a distant mirage

NOT since the Great Ethiopian Famine has the world been witness to a developing human tragedy of such disastrous dimensions. Trapped in no-man's land on the border between Iraq and Jordan, over 80,000 refugees have become helpless pawns in the Middle East crisis. A majority of them are Indians who fled strife-torn Iraq and Kuwait for the relative safety of Jordan, only to plunge into yet another nightmare, one that seems to have no ending.

For over a month now, the world's latest refugees—predominantly Indians, Pakistanis, Sri Lankans, Bangladeshis, Filipinos and Arabs—have been stranded in this parched desert strip with no shelter from the searing heat of the sun, fighting like animals over the scraps of food and bottles of water that trickle in from relief agencies. There are hundreds of babies here who have no milk to drink, pregnant women fainting in the 110 degree Fahrenheit temperatures. What makes it worse is that there are no sanitation facilities, deadly scorpions to contend with, few medicines and just a handful of medical personnel.

The threat of dying an agonisingly slow death is a constant companion. Says Samir Hamid, a carpenter from Bombay who had been in Kuwait for the last 18 months: "We have lost all our money because of the invasion and now we are condemned to die in this hell-hole. Even Allah has become deaf to our prayers."

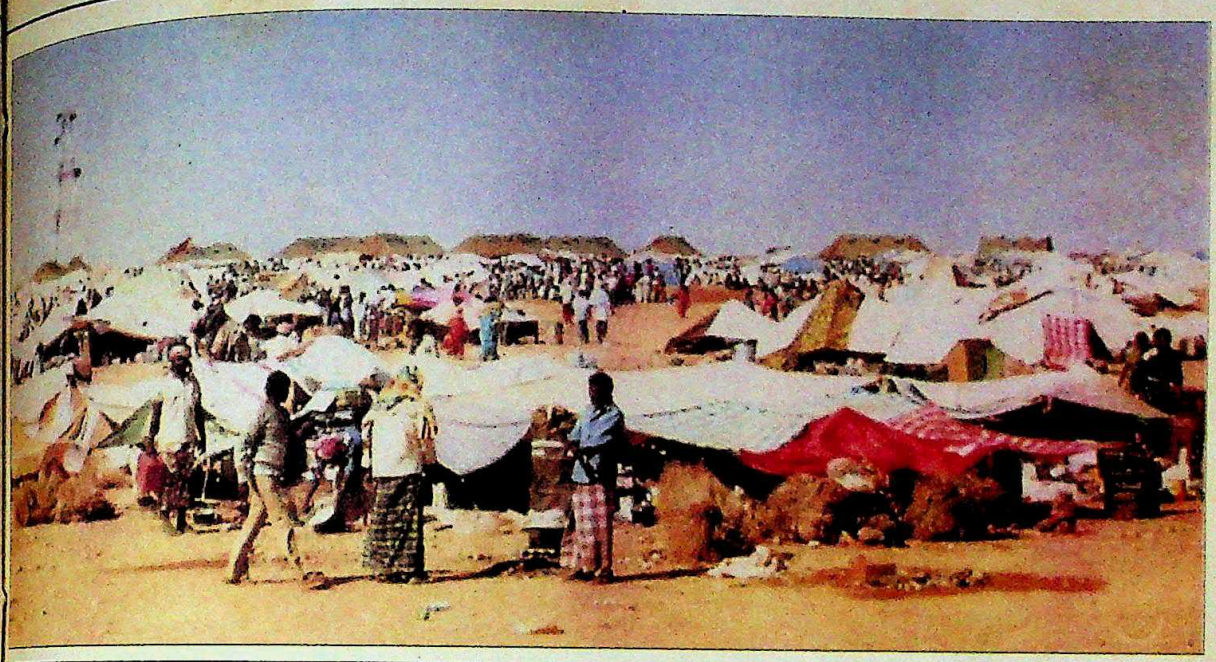
The teeming mass of humanity stretches as far as the eye can see. The strips of cloth the refugees have tied together as makeshift tents offer li protection from the hammering heat the blinding sands. Jordanian auth ties have named the makeshift ca Sha'alaan. The refugees, have ch tened it 'hell on earth'.

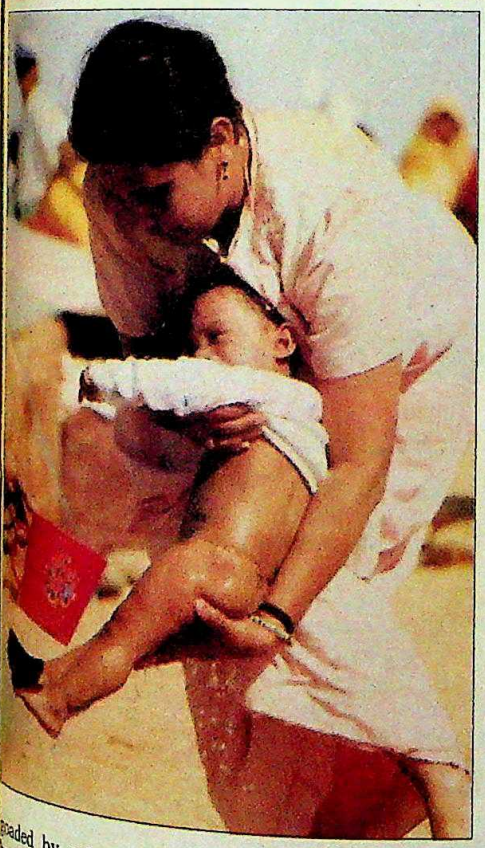
With each pitiful arrival of fo supplies, the refugees are herded i queues by baton-wielding Jordanian lice. The queues seem interminable mass of jostling, squabbling human

graded by pri
reak out over
eavened bread
ater. Here, ou
s Darwinism i
he fittest. Burl
he crowds milli
hoving aside
s and Malaya
In despera
rudge through

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri





View of the Sha'alaan refugee camp, on the Iraq-Jordan border; and (left) the gift of scarce water for a baby: pitiful plight

ndaded by primeval instincts. Fights
reak out over a piece of khuboos (un-
eavened bread) or a bottle of mineral
water. Here, out in the barren wastes, it
s Darwinism in action: the survival of
the fittest. Burly sardars surge through
the crowds milling around water trucks,
elbowing aside undernourished Gujara-
tis and Malayalis.

In desperation, many refugees
trudge through the burning sands in search of vendors selling food and drink at exorbitant prices. Touts at the border sell a can of Pepsi, which costs as little as 175 fils (Rs 6) in normal times, at one Jordanian dinar (Rs 35) each. The price of bottles of mineral water has also skyrocketed: from 200 fils (Rs 7) to JD 1.5 (Rs 50) and more, depending on how desperate the refugees are.

SAYS Deepika Salvi, 23, a distressed Indian housewife: "They would not even give us free drinking water." However, the ones who can afford to pay are the lucky ones; at least they have the money. Others have been stripped of their valuables and money by Iraqi soldiers after the invasion of Kuwait.

So desperate is the situation that many refugees have left Sha'alaan, preferring to make the long, arduous journey across the barren desert back to Kuwait. One Kuwait-bound bus, crowded with women and children, had a hand-painted sign stretched across its bonnet which said: "Don't come. We are being cheated." The sign is meant to serve as a warning for fellow Indians fleeing Kuwait and heading for the Jordanian border.

Adding to the nightmare is the fact that the mass of humanity threatens to drown the makeshift bureaucracy Jordan has assembled at the tiny border post of Ruweished. Built to handle about 70 vehicles a day ferrying goods into Iraq and oil out of it, Ruweished suddenly finds itself handling human traffic exceeding 20,000 per day as the flood of refugees continues to swell unabated. The flow has come to a grinding halt, as the handful of police officials at the border find themselves hopelessly inadequate, trying to stamp passports or determine nationalities on the basis of identification papers, often in languages like Bengali and Chinese.

Jordanian police often baton-charge in frustration, aggravating the already-sullen mood. Says Amin Aziz, a businessman leaving Kuwait: "They're treating us like shit, man. Why do they have to beat us up? We just want to get out." Ashok Kumar, a welder from Punjab who was working in Kuwait, carries a mass of weals on his naked back. He was beaten up by Jordanian police for straying too far from the camp in search of food.

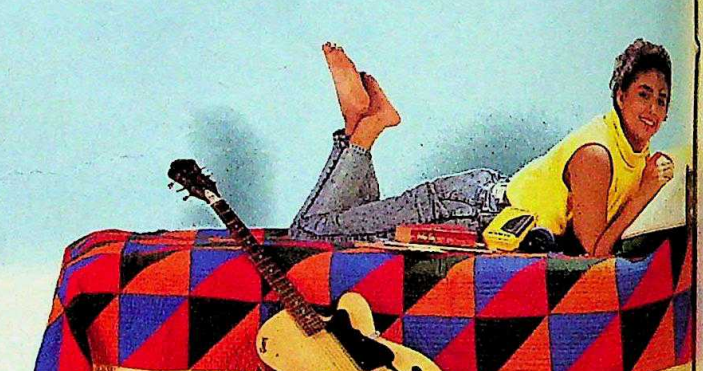
At the camps, the only respite comes at night, when the temperatures drop. But it is at night that thieves stealthily move from tent to tent, robbing the weaker ones of their meagre belongings. Says Kenny Fernandes, a Goan tailor: "We would stay up at nights and take

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

What's so great about my room? It's maha-cool! I share it with Madonna, Snoopy, comics, junk and zappy colours. See my walls? Horizon Blue. Rose Neyron. Julia Green. Special Brick. Radiance. Superlac's Super shades. Real neat. Check it out!

My favourite place in the world... My room



A dream made true by Superlac Acrylic Emulsion

Shalimar Paints

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

turns sleeping. But we were just too tired to keep people away."

The Jordanians are trying their best to alleviate the suffering. But even their best isn't good enough. They have distributed, for instance, over five tonnes of raw cheese, three tonnes of tomatoes and 20 tonnes of khuboos among the refugees. But the cheese is dry, tomatoes warm, and the khuboos often fungus-ridden.

Jordan's hands are also tied: it is a poor country with a per capita income of about $1,530 and no oil wealth. The international crisis arising out of the invasion of Kuwait and the United Nations sanctions—enforced by western warships and warplanes—have led to a Catch 22 situation for the refugees. No food or medicines are being allowed into the camps since it violates the UN-approved embargo on Iraq. The current food doles, which are provided by Red Crescent, the international humanitarian organisation, are woefully inadequate to feed the thousands of starving refugees.

Last week, the UN was considering appeals from countries like India and China to allow food and medicines to be supplied to the refugees. However, that will depend entirely on how—or when—the US Administration responds. For the thousands of refugees in Sha'alaan, that might just be too late.

The Indian Government has been equally helpless. The two passenger ships it was planning to send to bring back the refugees were not allowed to dock because they were carrying food and medicines. The only ship that has been able to bring Indian refugees from Kuwait to Dubai was a Panama registered merchant ship, *Safeer*, chartered for the purpose.

Moreover, the number of ships sailing into the Jordanian port of Aquaba is creating a virtual traffic jam. Says Mahamet Ali, a manager at the Aquaba Port Authority: "Countries have begun sending more ships, planes, cars, anything, to get their people out. This can't go on. Otherwise Jordan itself will collapse."

The Indian Embassy in the Jordanian capital of Amman is only geared to handle about 2,000 refugees a day, provided half are airlifted daily. Even with increased Air India frequency (as many as eight flights a day are ferrying people out of Amman now), only about 3,400 passengers a day can be sent out. The backlog is usually 5,000 a day. Till September 10, around 27,300 refugees had been airlifted but the number still awaiting repatriation is formidable (the number of Indians in Kuwait and Iraq alone is around 1.8 lakh). Says Gajendra Singh, the Indian ambassador in Amman: "I've often heard there is light at the end of the tunnel; but I'm yet to see even the tunnel."

THE sieve through which the refugees must pass is porous, but certain formalities have to be completed—Jordan is wary of an army of hungry refugees stalking Amman's streets. And Jordan has reasons to fear: as yet, of the 300,000 refugees who have entered Jordan, barely a third have left the country. Alarmed, King Hussein, between his frenetic shuttle diplomacy, gave orders to close the border "for a few days", increasing the backlog in the no-man's land. Says Brigadier-General I. Irshied, Jordanian director of foreign affairs: "We are trying our best to help, but we just cannot take any more people."

Meanwhile, the refugees at Sha'alaan continue to swell—and suffer. Last fortnight, Minister for Surface Transport K.P. Unnikrishnan toured the camps with Jordan's Crown Prince Hassan and termed the conditions "unimaginable". However, his promises to provide food and medicines and repatriate the refugees "at the earliest" fell on deaf ears. The refugees, not surprisingly, blame the Indian government for their plight. Unnikrishnan was heckled and booed by hundreds of Indians in Amman who are still awaiting repatriation.

UNI

Soldiers quelling disorderly refugees during food distribution: desperation

Much of their anger stems from the rash promises that were made by Foreign Minister Inder Kumar Gujral during his visit to the Middle East and after his meeting with Iraq's Saddam Hussein, promises that the Indian Government has been unable to fulfil for varying reasons. The fact that the Indian Government initially took a seemingly weak-kneed diplomatic stand over the invasion has made the large Indian community in the other Gulf countries highly unpopular.

Adding to the anger is Gujral's flight which brought back 300-odd Indians from Kuwait, derisively referred to as "the millionaire's flight" due to the number of VIPs on board. The refugees also cannot understand why they have been stranded when even western nationals in Baghdad are being air-lifted out.

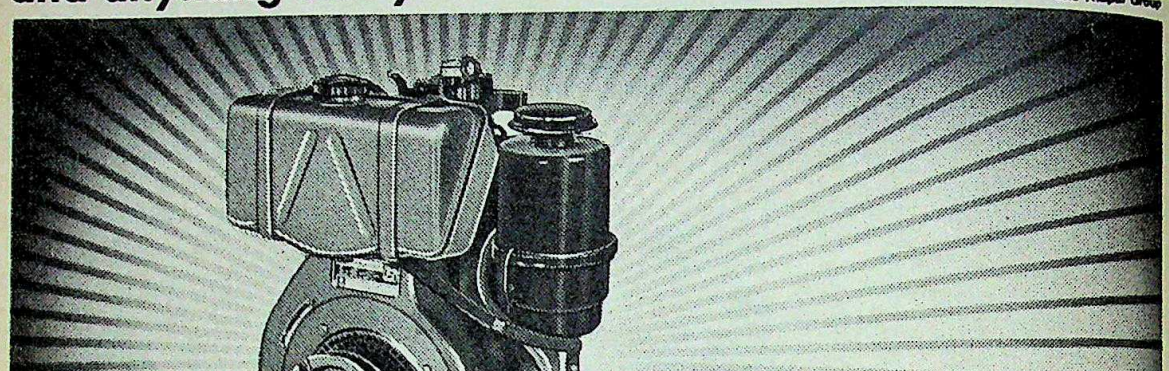
Says A. Mukherjee, 52, a prominent businessman who has lived in Kuwait for 20 years: "Some of us felt

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Over 100 uses we know of and anything else you can think of...

The Thapar Group



1/3 the size

1/4 the weight

80% saving on fuel costs in comparison to petrol engines

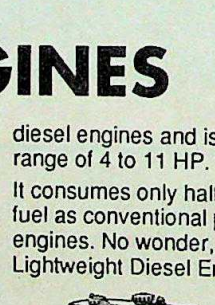
GREAVES DIESEL ENGINES

The Greaves Diesel Engine is the same Greaves Lombardini Engine you know so well. All we have changed is the name. Everything else about the engine is the same.

The Greaves Lightweight Diesel Engines have over a hundred applications and are used today by Railways, Defence, Industrial Units, the agricultural sector, small marine fishing craft and on construction sites.

It is one fourth the weight and one third the size of conventional diesel engines and is available in a range of 4 to 11 HP.

It consumes only half as much fuel as conventional petrol engines. No wonder, Greaves Lightweight Diesel Engines are exported to many countries i.e. USSR, Australia, Philippines and Kenya.



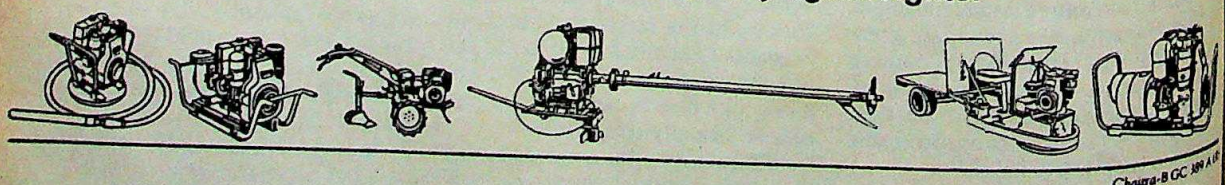
And, of course the superior Greaves quality is backed by the efficient Greaves after-sales service at 21 branches and a dealer network spread all over India.

For more information contact

SOLD & SERVICED BY GREAVES

Greaves Cotton & Co. Ltd.
Light Engine Division
1, Dr. V.B. Gandhi Marg
Bombay 400 023
• Delhi • Calcutta • Madras

Greaves Engines. The heavy duty lightweights.



Chaura-B GC 389 A

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

that Gujral acted in a high-handed and immature manner. When we asked him what will happen to our investments in Kuwait, he replied, 'I told you for so many years to invest in India. You didn't listen to me. Now you will have to suffer.' We were disappointed with his attitude." However, Mukherjee admits that the Indian Government has helped many people get out safely.

But India's efforts to bring back the refugees have been hamstrung by the diplomatic imbroglio over the Gulf crisis. For one, the airport at Kuwait is still damaged by the invasion. Further, Indian aircraft flying into Baghdad have to overfly Iranian air space and Teheran has not been very cooperative. Says an Indian official: "First they said they would give permission on a flight-by-flight basis. Now, they have turned us down completely. The westerners have to fly over Turkey which is no problem."

The Indian Government is still trying to get Iraqi permission to fly people out direct from Baghdad. But Iraqi officials have erected a bureaucratic blockade so that clearances still have not come through. Moreover, Saddam Hussein has decreed that all passenger aircraft flying into Baghdad must bring in food and medicines. Most western countries have got around that situation by leasing aircraft from Iraq to evacuate their citizens, mainly women and children so far, stranded in Baghdad.

Further, Iran and Pakistan have not permitted Indian Air Force's IL-76s to overfly their territories en route to Baghdad. Iraq's borders with Saudi Arabia, Syria and Turkey have hostile forces, making it impossible for Indian refugees to pass through. The only option, therefore, is to ferry people out of Kuwait by ship via Dubai, a permission Iraq will grant only if the incoming ships bring foodstuff ostensibly for stranded Indians—something that the US-led multinational task force policing the Gulf hasn't allowed, fearing it will be diverted to Iraqis.

For the refugees at Sha'alaan, that situation is hardly cause for hope. As it is, even the ones who have managed to get into Amman are not exactly fortunate. Maraj-al-Hamam, Jordan's trade fair hall (which Crown Prince Hassan has termed "a human disaster"), is now a vast ocean of nationalities unprotected by their embassies—Bangladesh, Pakistan, the Philippines and Sri Lanka. Indians were luckier: the embassy moved early to rent out rooms at astronomical prices to house refugees at apartments and hotels. A room that would cost 10 JD (Rs 350) a day was now available at 6,000 JD (Rs 2.1 lakh) per month.

The load in Amman is unmanageable: embassy officials are clearly worried, for they fear total breakdown. There is a virtual free-for-all anyway. Many Indians have now taken to sleeping on the streets of Amman, outside the embassy on 13, Amr bin Mas'adah Street, metamorphosed overnight from princes to paupers.

INDIAN Embassy officials privately complain that with the Government not doing enough to move people directly out of Baghdad, the problem of volume is awesome: there are just too many people to be taken out, and too few aircraft. Ministers from Kerala and Gujarat who visited the Indian Embassy in Amman have grandly promised a dozen flights daily, thus increasing the sense of frustration among the refugees who are still stranded at Sha'alaan.

Here, the crush of humanity and the shortages of food and water have already destroyed the final vestiges of human decency. Managing directors and businessmen squabble with masons and carpenters over a scrap of bread or a carton of yoghurt. Recounts Bashir Shaikh, a plumber from Hassan district in Karnataka: "I saw two people snatch khuboos from a poor Pakistani woman."

Other stories abound: of Sikhs tonsuring their hair because it is too hot, of pregnant women begging for nourishment, of little, dehydrated girls going without water for days. Shraddha Sardesai, 28, has a six-week-old daughter still in her arms. She went to a guard, showed him her daughter, and pleaded for water. The guard pushed her away. She then went to his superior who shouted at her in Arabic, a language she doesn't understand. She was back with her relatives, on baking sand, her skin suffering from sunburn. Says she: "For two days Neelam (her daughter) has not had any water to drink. She has fever and the doctors are in the other camp." The lack of sanitation means that an epidemic could break out any day, adding another dimension to the crisis. At Sha'alaan, everything from food, water, medicine and even sympathy, are in short supply. The only thing that's unending are the queues—and the nightmare.

—DILIP BOBB with SALIL TRIPATHI in Ruweished

UNI

A relief worker giving a helping hand to a sick refugee: bleak future

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

JORDAN'S CROWN PRINCE HASSAN BIN TALAL

"This is an Oilwellian crisis"

SANDWICHED between a menacing Iraq and old enemy Israel, Jordan has been pitchforked to the centre stage of the Gulf crisis, requiring Jordan's King Hussain to perform a dangerous balancing act. The one man helping him walk the tightrope between the local populace's admiration for Saddam Hussein and the monarchy's closeness to the US, is his successor, the Crown Prince Hassan bin Talal, who has suddenly been flung into the spotlight. Educated at Oxford, the crown prince has a historical perspective on the Middle East crisis. He has the typical turn of phrase that American TV *loves. Also, he is no stranger to the subcontinent as he is married to Pakistan-born Sarwat. The suave and articulate crown prince found time to talk to Senior Correspondent* SALIL TRIPATHI *at the Royal Court in Amman. Excerpts:*

Q. *What is your view of the American intervention in the Gulf?*

A. Every statement from Iraq reiterates that they have no intention of attacking Saudi Arabia. We have to de-escalate the crisis now, before any small incident could provoke what we all feel will be the ultimate nightmare. It will be the opening of a new chapter of spiralling violence both within the region and beyond. There are indications on the Iraqi side which should not be dismissed at face value as propaganda: yes, the Iraqis do want negotiations. That is the understanding of the Indian foreign minister. But regardless of all the nasty things being said about this country—sitting on the fence, vassals of Iraq and what have you—our feeling has been that accurate information and the ability to use it is more important than the use of force. We have been trying to avoid from the beginning the Solomon in the Temple syndrome; the reference to martyrdom is very clear.

Q. *What is the Jordanian strategy to de-escalate the crisis?*

A. Iraqi withdrawal is required first. We are not justifying Iraqi action, we are clearly opposed to annexation or occupation: in the Falklands, in Afghanistan, in any number of cases. But it has to be understood that there is a historical background to this issue, and unless territorial, economic and oil-related issues are discussed, what guarantee does anyone have that this won't happen again? I'm reminded of the fact that each one of the Gulf states has outstanding (territorial) differences: Saudi with Bahrain and Qatar, the UAE with the Saudis. Calling for a conflict free zone is a noble goal. I feel we should go back to Saddam's five points: his guarantees of non-aggression.

Q. *One western criticism of Jordan has been that it is not doing enough.*

A. I don't want to sound pejorative about anyone, but I do find it very amusing that our European friends who speak to us of pluralism and democracy when they come here say your press doesn't make pleasant reading because it is criticising the West. We say: do you want democracy or not? The criticism is nothing but the street speaking its mind. So it is sad for us to see the West demanding us to speak against autocracy, and we say we have spoken up for many years against militancy and dictatorial regimes, including in the Arab world, when we were called imperialistic lackeys! When we talk of a negotiated settlement with Israel we are accused by Arab militants of currying favours with the West. But when we seek the same negotiated settlement over the Kuwait crisis we are called softies. We're in the middle of the situation, yet everyone is shouting at us: apply sanctions, close your borders, forgetting that half of our population is in Kuwait: from millionaires they've become paupers at one stroke. We say our proximity with Iraq can be used as an open window. Jordan is not dependent on Iraq, the reverse is true. There are enormous Jordanian credits to Iraq. If Turkey can get relief under UN Article 51, why can't Jordan?

Q. *What is the Jordanian game-plan?*

A. We are in touch with world leaders; Amman has become something of a focal point. We are continuing to be in contact with the parties directly concerned. Jordan still recognises the Emir regime in Kuwait. There are two planes to the crisis. The international consumer is deeply worried: 4 million barrels per day at $15 more a barrel is a lot more to pay. But it is going to hurt the Third World and East European countries even more.

Q. *How are Arab countries coping with popular resentment against the Saudi decision to allow US troops?*

A. There is tremendous resentment in the streets about the presence—overwhelming, unprecedented—of hundreds of thousands of foreign troops. They ask: Why over Kuwait? Why not over Palestine when in the same UN Security Council the United States vetoed the resolution to allow a fact-finding mission to visit occupied

NAMAS BHOJA

The Crown Prince: looking for peace

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

territories? It is that desperation and frustration which has led to a change of heart. If they had been introduced with a political mandate that was clear, it would have been all right, but it was sought retroactively, with UN Resolution 665 about "minimum force". The move from sanctions to embargo was one phase rather than a progressive movement.

Q. But some Arab and Muslim countries have sent troops.

A. Yes, but some like the King of Morocco said it was a decision taken in haste and room had to be kept for an Arab solution.

Q. And what exactly is an Arab solution?

A. Elements in the solution have to include the final containment and resolution of the Kuwait-Iraq issue. In '58 the Iraqi government of that time had raised the issue. Again in '61, Iraq had taken action against Kuwait. Saddam comes up with statements in successive Arab summits that waging an economic war against Iraq is tantamount to waging a war by other means. Every decade has seen a villain in western eyes: Nasser over Suez, Gaddafi, Ayatollah Khomeini and the threat to the Gulf. At that moment it was very convenient to support Iraq against Iran in a war which lasted eight years, cost a trillion dollars, leading to death and maiming of more than a million on both sides. But nobody wanted an immediate conflict resolution there. That's why I call this an Orwellian crisis. Even an international oil government, with an offshore presence protected by international forces is something that popular Arab and Muslim perceptions oppose. A regional issue has to be solved regionally.

Q. Would you say that the Iraqi aggression has given the United States the excuse to station troops in the Gulf?

A. Well, I think the Desert Shield had been planned, so clearly there had been some thinking on this eventuality. So in that sense I agree with you.

Q. Do you think amidst the euphoria over events in Eastern Europe last year the Palestinian problem got neglected?

A. The Middle East has been marginalised for so long. We have complained about it. Now we are in the cockpit of the world's attention, for the wrong reasons. So I hope that statesmanship does emerge, but there is a saying that a statesman is a dead politician!

Q. Would you say that the Gulf regimes are an anachronism in our time?

A. It is interesting to look at the objection to autocracy and the demand for restoration of former political order in the Gulf states. What does the West seek: continuation of oligarchy? Or does it seek democratic solutions? We have countries with $15,000 per capita income and $100 per capita in Arab Muslim countries. There has to be redistribution among oil-exporting and manpower exporting Arab countries.

Q. Isn't there an anomaly in the international demand for restoration of a regime which was unelected?

A. What I say analytically is obviously going to get controversial. My compatriots in the Gulf may have difficulty in understanding Jordan's message. I'd like to say that the political integrity of Gulf states is very important, even to establish what's described disparagingly as the myth of Arab unity. But I'd also like to say that for over 20 years, the manpower exporting countries like mine and Egypt, have been calling for a new regional economic order.

> "We are finding it enormously difficult to justify to our people the massive build-up in Saudi Arabia."
>
> "India is one country which can play a role—it has weight and moral authority in the Arab context."

Q. Has internationalisation of the regional conflict made an Arab solution impossible?

A. Well, my rhetorical question is how long can you justify the massive troop presence, unless either you justify the rationale, which is to use moral weightage of intervention to bring the Iraqis out, or use it militarily, which is dangerous. We are finding it enormously difficult to justify to our people the massive build-up in Saudi Arabia.

Q. Has this crisis divided the Arab world irreparably?

A. I think there is deep suspicion, deep hurt and worries about the future but there is still hope for containing this division. How can you talk of an Arab force alongside foreign forces fighting against Arab forces? How can war solve anything? Are these troops representing a form of oil colonialism?

Q. Has the time come to face the Palestinian question squarely?

A. Clearly elements of equivalence in the three situations (Palestine, Lebanon and Gulf) is there. I don't want to get into hot water, but I'm interested to know that even Turkey is opposed to occupation and aggression. Full stop *(chuckles)*.

Q. So Middle East deserves a look, is it?

A. Of course, if the Middle East is important, then let's make sure that the stability of the world is not affected by violence and militancy. The only ones who stand to gain from the present turmoil are the Israelis who're now saying because of instability in the region we can't trust the Arabs.

Q. In view of your close relations with the United States, have you received or sought any assurance from them that they won't fire first?

A. Our understanding is that the presence of American troops is to deter Iraq from aggression against Saudi. But Douglas MacArthur led a multinational force in Korea in which the principal partner was the USA, and the rest is history.

Q. Do you see any Indian role in mediation?

A. Well, I believe it is one country which can play a role, it has weight and moral authority in the Arab context. India is not in the multinational force, it therefore has a distinct role. But first we have to contain the escalation. If governments like the Indian and other Arab governments can talk to Iraq, and say, let's look for a political solution, tell them, look, this is what UN members are saying, how would you respond? Then Iraq is likely to tell you, we have been wanting to talk, but nobody is talking to us.

Q. Do you think the winner is going to be the fundamentalist?

A. We must address this image of the ugly Arab or the Muslim. We are also people, but after the Cold War, when there is no enemy, is the world looking for one? Arabs aren't terrorists. Stereotyping is awful. Saddam equals Hitler. Arab equals terrorist. Muslim equals fundamentalist. And now, of course, there are some good and bad Muslims, or pro- and anti-American Muslims.

Q. So Francis Fukuyama's thesis that history has ended isn't valid.

A. The problem with history is that we never learn from reading it.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

MANDAL COMMISSION

No-Win Gambit

SPEAKING from the ramparts of the Red Fort on Independence Day, the prime minister confirmed his commitment to the implementation of the Mandal Commission's recommendations. Since then, there has been an almost non-stop series of rallies, riots and bandhs across the Hindi belt.

In order to assess the implications of these events on the electoral prospects, INDIA TODAY *commissioned Marketing and Research Group* (MARG), *the country's leading independent market research agency, to conduct an opinion poll in the Hindi belt.*

The constituencies were selected by well-known psephologist Prannoy Roy, who analysed the data got from interviewing 5,392 voters between September 1 and 6, and projected it to the number of seats likely to be won by the various parties.

The poll findings are reported by Prannoy Roy and MARG.

Viewed narrowly in terms of the votes gained or lost for the Janata Dal, the implementation of the Mandal Commission report appears to have landed Prime Minister V.P. Singh in a 'no-win' situation. While he may not have lost many votes, the poll shows that the Mandal Commission is not the vote bonanza that many in the Government were expecting.

The poll's findings suggest that:

► The strength of feeling against the Mandal Commission is so strong amongst the 'forward castes' that a very high proportion of them will now vote against the Janata Dal. The result is a large 9-10 per cent swing away from the Janata Dal among these castes.

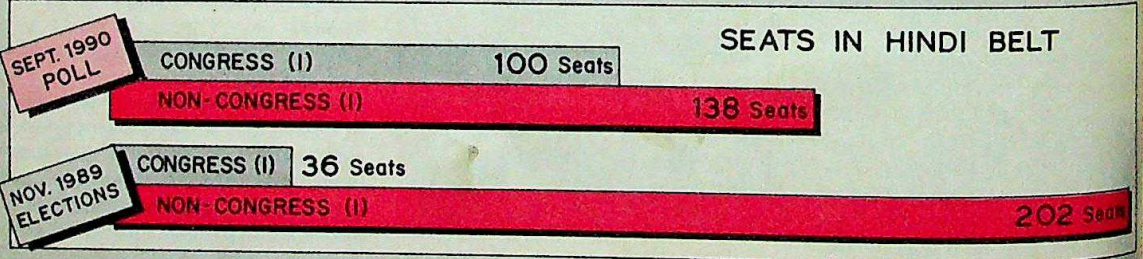
► While the backward castes are clearly in favour of the Mandal Commission, now that the recommendations have been implemented, the positive mood of the backward castes will not be fully translated into votes. The result is a relatively low 2 per cent swing in favour of the Janata Dal.

► While the 'forward castes' are fewer in number than the 'backward castes' (less than half), their large swing against the Government neutralises the smaller swing in favour of the Government among the 'backward castes'. The net impact on votes between these two caste groups is virtually zero.

► The factor that may finally lead to the Government losing votes overall is the attitude of the SCs and STs to the Mandal

Tables by MAHENDRA RATHORE

THE MANDAL FACTOR



	% in the Hindi Belt**	Swing For (+) Against (−) Janata Dal	Overall Impact For (+) Against (−) Dal***
Forward Castes*	15-25	−9.3	−1.4
Backward Castes*	35-45	+1.8	+0.4
SCs/STs	26	−6.1	−0.7
Muslims	12	—	—
Other non-Hindus	2	—	—
TOTAL	—	—	−1.7

(All figures in percentages)

*Since the 1931 census, no data has been collected on the caste of citizens. The figures here are estimates based on discussions with various informed sources.

**Hindi belt includes Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Delhi.

***Adjusted for current levels of awareness of Mandal Commission.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

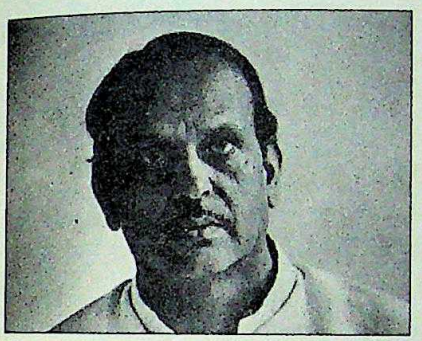
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Commission. The poll shows that while these castes are in favour of reservation for themselves, they oppose reservation for the 'backward castes' because they see them as their immediate oppressors. The result is a sizeable 6 per cent swing away from the Government.

▸ The net effect of these swings is that if an election were to be held today the Government would lose 25 seats in the Hindi belt. As the poll was not conducted in other parts of the country it does not reflect an all-India assessment.

One reason for the relatively small swing among the backward castes in favour of the Government could be that as the report has already been implemented, it has lost its sharpness as an election issue. If, however, that concession were to be taken away or threatened, the promise of its restoration would naturally, once again, become an election issue for the backward castes. Under those circumstances, the swing in favour of the Government among the backward castes would be much greater. The swings reported in this poll reflect the mood and circumstances as they exist today.

There are no reliable estimates of the distribution of castes in north India. Recent census data exists for SCs and STs as well as for different religions. Estimates of the forward and backward castes have been projected from data in the 1931 and 1891 census as well as other surveys and informed sources. Nevertheless, as no precise figures exist, a range of percentages has been given.



POLITICAL PLOY?

AGAIN there is a strong caste divide in the responses. The upper castes see the move to give reservation as a way of gaining votes. The backward castes, SCs/STs and the Muslims see the move as one that will benefit the country.

WHY HAS V.P. SINGH TAKEN THIS STEP?

	To Gain Votes	To Benefit The Country
Forward Castes	75	25
Backward Castes	33	67
SCs/STs	31	69
Muslims	32	68
Other Non-Hindus	73	27
ALL VOTERS	43	57

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

AWARENESS OF THE MANDAL REPORT

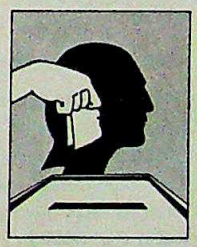
A majority of voters are aware of the Mandal Commission report and its recommendations. However, the awareness level is much higher among the forward castes (among whom the awareness was as high as 73 per cent) than among the backward castes, SC/STs or Muslims (among whom the awareness was around 50 per cent).

AWARENESS LEVEL

	Aware	Not Aware
Forward Castes	73	27
Backward Castes	48	52
SCs/STs	47	53
Muslims	52	48
Other Non-Hindus	86	14
ALL VOTERS	55	45

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

WILL IT AFFECT VOTING BEHAVIOUR?



MARG interviewers asked all respondents whether they felt strongly enough about reservation for the backward classes for it to affect their vote at the next general elections.

Two-thirds of all voters (and 75 per cent of the forward castes) said that the reservation issue would affect their vote at the next Lok Sabha elections.

EFFECT ON VOTING BEHAVIOUR

	Affect Vote? Yes	No
Forward Castes	75	25
Backward Castes	66	34
SCs/STs	61	39
Muslims	73	27
Other Non-Hindus	69	31
ALL VOTERS	68	32

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

RESERVATIONS OR NOT?

	Yes	No
Forward Castes	36	64
Backward Castes	80	20
SCs/STs	90	10
Muslims	77	23
Other Non-Hindus	39	61
ALL VOTERS	71	29

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

DIVIDED VIEWS

THERE is a strong polarisation in the views of the electorate. The backward castes, SCs/STs and Muslims who were interviewed for the opinion poll strongly back reservation in Central Government jobs. On the other hand, the forward castes and other non-Hindus have reacted negatively to the idea.

ECONOMIC OR SOCIAL REASON?

THE pro-reservationists' main argument was it helps to reduce economic inequalities of the backward castes. Many felt it would help backward classes gain social acceptability.

WHY IN FAVOUR OF RESERVATIONS?

Reduces economic inequalities	53
Gives them social respectability	29
Reduces upper class influence	18

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

THE MERIT QUESTION

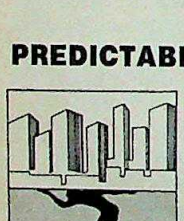
THOSE who opposed reservation did so primarily because it ignored merit and because it would increase inter-caste tensions.

WHY AGAINST RESERVATIONS?

Ignores merit	54
Increases inter-caste tensions	37
Decreases efficiency	9

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

PREDICTABLE DIVIDE



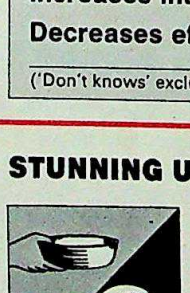
THE consensus among SCs/STs interviewed is that discrimination is being practised against backward castes both in educational institutions and in Central Government jobs. But the majority of forward castes feel the backward castes do not suffer any discrimination.

IS THERE DISCRIMINATION?

	In Schools & Colleges		In Central Govt. Jobs	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Forward Castes	35	65	38	62
Backward Castes	47	53	50	50
SCs/STs	59	41	65	35
Muslims	52	48	51	49
Other Non-Hindus	32	68	37	63
ALL VOTERS	47	53	51	49

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

STUNNING UNANIMITY



THERE is consensus among the voters that it would be better to have reservation on economic grounds than on caste alone. The backward castes and SCs/STs also share this view perhaps because they hope to also benefit from a policy based on a 'means test'.

ECONOMIC NEED OR CASTE

	Economic Need	Caste Need
Forward Castes	94	6
Backward Castes	84	16
SCs/STs	83	17
Muslims	91	9
Other Non-Hindus	92	8
ALL VOTERS	87	13

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

turns sleeping. But we were just too tired to keep people away."

The Jordanians are trying their best to alleviate the suffering. But even their best isn't good enough. They have distributed, for instance, over five tonnes of raw cheese, three tonnes of tomatoes and 20 tonnes of khuboos among the refugees. But the cheese is dry, tomatoes warm, and the khuboos often fungus-ridden.

Jordan's hands are also tied: it is a poor country with a per capita income of about $1,530 and no oil wealth. The international crisis arising out of the invasion of Kuwait and the United Nations sanctions—enforced by western warships and warplanes—have led to a Catch 22 situation for the refugees. No food or medicines are being allowed into the camps since it violates the UN-approved embargo on Iraq. The current food doles, which are provided by Red Crescent, the international humanitarian organisation, are woefully inadequate to feed the thousands of starving refugees.

Last week, the UN was considering appeals from countries like India and China to allow food and medicines to be supplied to the refugees. However, that will depend entirely on how—or when—the US Administration responds. For the thousands of refugees in Sha'alaan, that might just be too late.

The Indian Government has been equally helpless. The two passenger ships it was planning to send to bring back the refugees were not allowed to dock because they were carrying food and medicines. The only ship that has been able to bring Indian refugees from Kuwait to Dubai was a Panama registered merchant ship, *Safeer*, chartered for the purpose.

Moreover, the number of ships sailing into the Jordanian port of Aquaba is creating a virtual traffic jam. Says Mahamet Ali, a manager at the Aquaba Port Authority: "Countries have begun sending more ships, planes, cars, anything, to get their people out. This can't go on. Otherwise Jordan itself will collapse."

The Indian Embassy in the Jordanian capital of Amman is only geared to handle about 2,000 refugees a day, provided half are airlifted daily. Even with increased Air India frequency (as many as eight flights a day are ferrying people out of Amman now), only about 3,400 passengers a day can be sent out. The backlog is usually 5,000 a day. Till September 10, around 27,300 refugees had been airlifted but the number still awaiting repatriation is formidable (the number of Indians in Kuwait and Iraq alone is around 1.8 lakh). Says Gajendra Singh, the Indian ambassador in Amman: "I've often heard there is light at the end of the tunnel; but I'm yet to see even the tunnel."

THE sieve through which the refugees must pass is porous, but certain formalities have to be completed—Jordan is wary of an army of hungry refugees stalking Amman's streets. And Jordan has reasons to fear: as yet, of the 300,000 refugees who have entered Jordan, barely a third have left the country. Alarmed, King Hussein, between his frenetic shuttle diplomacy, gave orders to close the border "for a few days", increasing the backlog in the no-man's land. Says Brigadier-General I. Irshied, Jordanian director of foreign affairs: "We are trying our best to help, but we just cannot take any more people."

Meanwhile, the refugees at Sha'alaan continue to swell—and suffer. Last fortnight, Minister for Surface Transport K.P. Unnikrishnan toured the camps with Jordan's Crown Prince Hassan and termed the conditions "unimaginable". However, his promises to provide food and medicines and repatriate the refugees "at the earliest" fell on deaf ears. The refugees, not surprisingly, blame the Indian government for their plight. Unnikrishnan was heckled and booed by hundreds of Indians in Amman who are still awaiting repatriation.

Soldiers quelling disorderly refugees during food distribution: desperation

Much of their anger stems from the rash promises that were made by Foreign Minister Inder Kumar Gujral during his visit to the Middle East and after his meeting with Iraq's Saddam Hussein, promises that the Indian Government has been unable to fulfil for varying reasons. The fact that the Indian Government initially took a seemingly weak-kneed diplomatic stand over the invasion has made the large Indian community in the other Gulf countries highly unpopular.

Adding to the anger is Gujral's flight which brought back 300-odd Indians from Kuwait, derisively referred to as "the millionaire's flight" due to the number of VIPs on board. The refugees also cannot understand why they have been stranded when even western nationals in Baghdad are being air-lifted out.

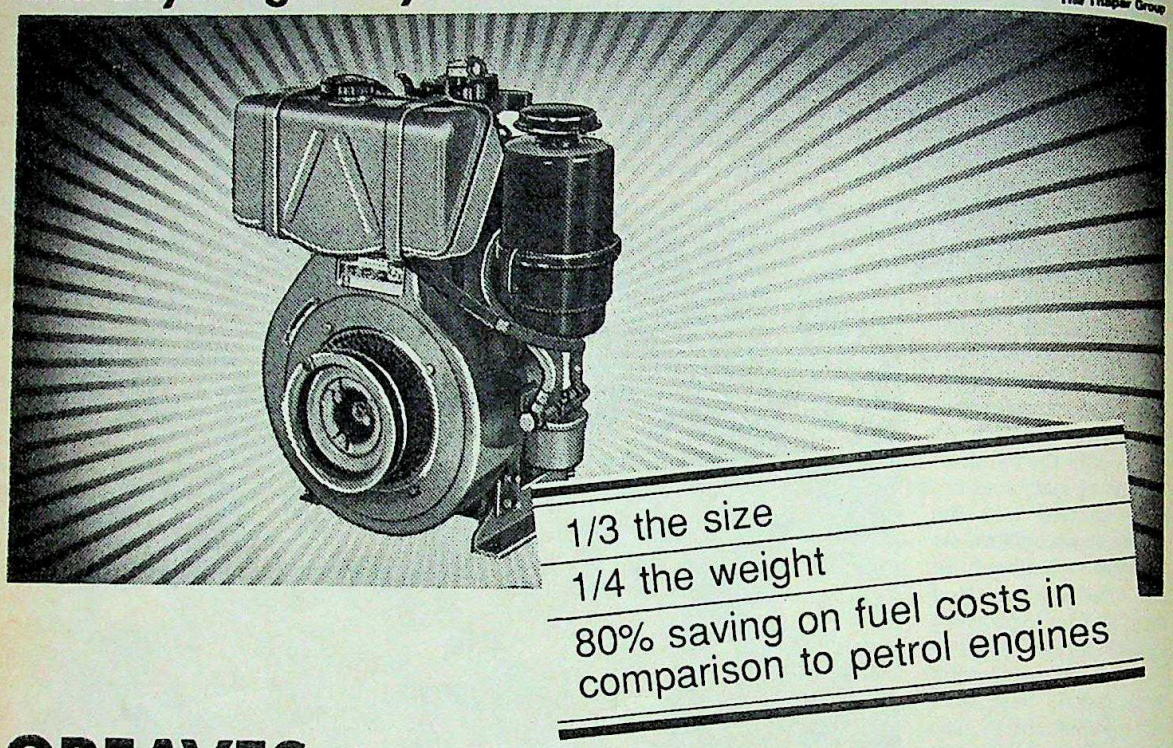
Says A. Mukherjee, 52, a prominent businessman who has lived in Kuwait for 20 years: "Some of us felt

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Over 100 uses we know of and anything else you can think of...

The Thapar Group



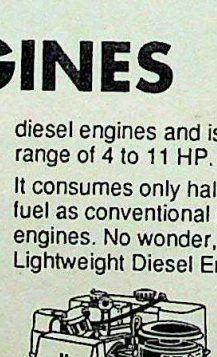
GREAVES DIESEL ENGINES

The Greaves Diesel Engine is the same Greaves Lombardini Engine you know so well. All we have changed is the name. Everything else about the engine is the same.

The Greaves Lightweight Diesel Engines have over a hundred applications and are used today by Railways, Defence, Industrial Units, the agricultural sector, small marine fishing craft and on construction sites.

It is one fourth the weight and one third the size of conventional diesel engines and is available in a range of 4 to 11 HP.

It consumes only half as much fuel as conventional petrol engines. No wonder, Greaves Lightweight Diesel Engines are exported to many countries i.e. USSR, Australia, Philippines and Kenya.



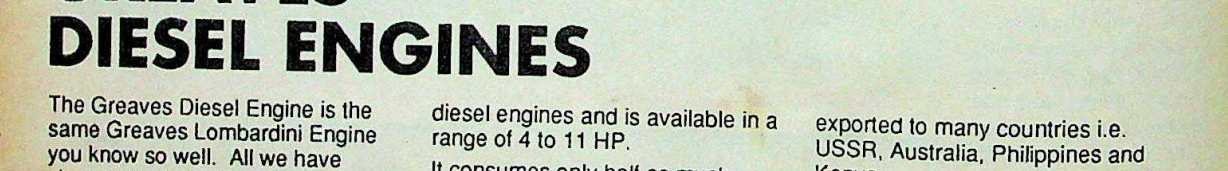
And, of course the superior Greaves quality is backed by the efficient Greaves after-sales service at 21 branches and a dealer network spread all over India.

For more information contact

SOLD & SERVICED BY GREAVES

Greaves Cotton & Co. Ltd.
Light Engine Division
1, Dr. V.B. Gandhi Marg
Bombay 400 023
• Delhi • Calcutta • Madras

Greaves Engines. The heavy duty lightweights.



Chaitra-B GC 189 A 180

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

that Gujral acted in a high-handed and immature manner. When we asked him what will happen to our investments in Kuwait, he replied, 'I told you for so many years to invest in India. You didn't listen to me. Now you will have to suffer.' We were disappointed with his attitude." However, Mukherjee admits that the Indian Government has helped many people get out safely.

But India's efforts to bring back the refugees have been hamstrung by the diplomatic imbroglio over the Gulf crisis. For one, the airport at Kuwait is still damaged by the invasion. Further, Indian aircraft flying into Baghdad have to overfly Iranian air space and Teheran has not been very cooperative. Says an Indian official: "First they said they would give permission on a flight-by-flight basis. Now, they have turned us down completely. The westerners have to fly over Turkey which is no problem."

The Indian Government is still trying to get Iraqi permission to fly people out direct from Baghdad. But Iraqi officials have erected a bureaucratic blockade so that clearances still have not come through. Moreover, Saddam Hussein has decreed that all passenger aircraft flying into Baghdad must bring in food and medicines. Most western countries have got around that situation by leasing aircraft from Iraq to evacuate their citizens, mainly women and children so far, stranded in Baghdad.

Further, Iran and Pakistan have not permitted Indian Air Force's IL-76s to overfly their territories en route to Baghdad. Iraq's borders with Saudi Arabia, Syria and Turkey have hostile forces, making it impossible for Indian refugees to pass through. The only option, therefore, is to ferry people out of Kuwait by ship via Dubai, a permission Iraq will grant only if the incoming ships bring foodstuff ostensibly for stranded Indians—something that the US-led multinational task force policing the Gulf hasn't allowed, fearing it will be diverted to Iraqis.

For the refugees at Sha'alaan, that situation is hardly cause for hope. As it is, even the ones who have managed to get into Amman are not exactly fortunate. Maraj-al-Hamam, Jordan's trade fair hall (which Crown Prince Hassan has termed "a human disaster"), is now a vast ocean of nationalities unprotected by their embassies—Bangladesh, Pakistan, the Philippines and Sri Lanka. Indians were luckier: the embassy moved early to rent out rooms at astronomical prices to house refugees at apartments and hotels. A room that would cost 10 JD (Rs 350) a day was now available at 6,000 JD (Rs 2.1 lakh) per month.

The load in Amman is unmanageable: embassy officials are clearly worried, for they fear total breakdown. There is a virtual free-for-all anyway. Many Indians have now taken to sleeping on the streets of Amman, outside the embassy on 13, Amr bin Mas'adah Street, metamorphosed overnight from princes to paupers.

INDIAN Embassy officials privately complain that with the Government not doing enough to move people directly out of Baghdad, the problem of volume is awesome: there are just too many people to be taken out, and too few aircraft. Ministers from Kerala and Gujarat who visited the Indian Embassy in Amman have grandly promised a dozen flights daily, thus increasing the sense of frustration among the refugees who are still stranded at Sha'alaan.

Here, the crush of humanity and the shortages of food and water have already destroyed the final vestiges of human decency. Managing directors and businessmen squabble with masons and carpenters over a scrap of bread or a carton of yoghurt. Recounts Bashir Shaikh, a plumber from Hassan district in Karnataka: "I saw two people snatch khuboos from a poor Pakistani woman."

Other stories abound: of Sikhs tonsuring their hair because it is too hot, of pregnant women begging for nourishment, of little, dehydrated girls going without water for days. Shraddha Sardesai, 28, has a six-week-old daughter still in her arms. She went to a guard, showed him her daughter, and pleaded for water. The guard pushed her away. She then went to his superior who shouted at her in Arabic, a language she doesn't understand. She was back with her relatives, on baking sand, her skin suffering from sunburn. Says she: "For two days Neelam (her daughter) has not had any water to drink. She has fever and the doctors are in the other camp." The lack of sanitation means that an epidemic could break out any day, adding another dimension to the crisis. At Sha'alaan, everything from food, water, medicine and even sympathy, are in short supply. The only thing that's unending are the queues—and the nightmare.

—DILIP BOBB with
SALIL TRIPATHI in Ruweished

UNI

A relief worker giving a helping hand to a sick refugee: bleak future

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

JORDAN'S CROWN PRINCE HASSAN BIN TALAL

"This is an Oilwellian crisis"

SANDWICHED between a menacing Iraq and old enemy Israel, Jordan has been pitchforked to the centre stage of the Gulf crisis, requiring Jordan's King Hussain to perform a dangerous balancing act. The one man helping him walk the tightrope between the local populace's admiration for Saddam Hussein and the monarchy's closeness to the US, is his successor, the Crown Prince Hassan bin Talal, who has suddenly been flung into the spotlight. Educated at Oxford, the crown prince has a historical perspective on the Middle East crisis. He has the typical turn of phrase that American TV *loves. Also, he is no stranger to the subcontinent as he is married to Pakistan-born Sarwat. The suave and articulate crown prince found time to talk to Senior Correspondent* SALIL TRIPATHI *at the Royal Court in Amman. Excerpts:*

Q. *What is your view of the American intervention in the Gulf?*

A. Every statement from Iraq reiterates that they have no intention of attacking Saudi Arabia. We have to de-escalate the crisis now, before any small incident could provoke what we all feel will be the ultimate nightmare. It will be the opening of a new chapter of spiralling violence both within the region and beyond. There are indications on the Iraqi side which should not be dismissed at face value as propaganda: yes, the Iraqis do want negotiations. That is the understanding of the Indian foreign minister. But regardless of all the nasty things being said about this country—sitting on the fence, vassals of Iraq and what have you—our feeling has been that accurate information and the ability to use it is more important than the use of force. We have been trying to avoid from the beginning the Solomon in the Temple syndrome; the reference to martyrdom is very clear.

Q. *What is the Jordanian strategy to de-escalate the crisis?*

A. Iraqi withdrawal is required first. We are not justifying Iraqi action, we are clearly opposed to annexation or occupation: in the Falklands, in Afghanistan, in any number of cases. But it has to be understood that there is a historical background to this issue, and unless territorial, economic and oil-related issues are discussed, what guarantee does anyone have that this won't happen again? I'm reminded of the fact that each one of the Gulf states has outstanding (territorial) differences: Saudi with Bahrain and Qatar, the UAE with the Saudis. Calling for a conflict free zone is a noble goal. I feel we should go back to Saddam's five points: his guarantees of non-aggression.

Q. *One western criticism of Jordan has been that it is not doing enough.*

A. I don't want to sound pejorative about anyone, but I do find it very amusing that our European friends who speak to us of pluralism and democracy when they come here say your press doesn't make pleasant reading because it is criticising the West. We say: do you want democracy or not? The criticism is nothing but the street speaking its mind. So it is sad for us to see the West demanding us to speak against autocracy, and we say we have spoken up for many years against militancy and dictatorial regimes, including in the Arab world, when we were called imperialistic lackeys! When we talk of a negotiated settlement with Israel we are accused by Arab militants of currying favours with the West. But when we seek the same negotiated settlement over the Kuwait crisis we are called softies. We're in the middle of the situation, yet everyone is shouting at us: apply sanctions, close your borders, forgetting that half of our population is in Kuwait: from millionaires they've become paupers at one stroke. We say our proximity with Iraq can be used as an open window. Jordan is not dependent on Iraq, the reverse is true. There are enormous Jordanian credits to Iraq. If Turkey can get relief under UN Article 51, why can't Jordan?

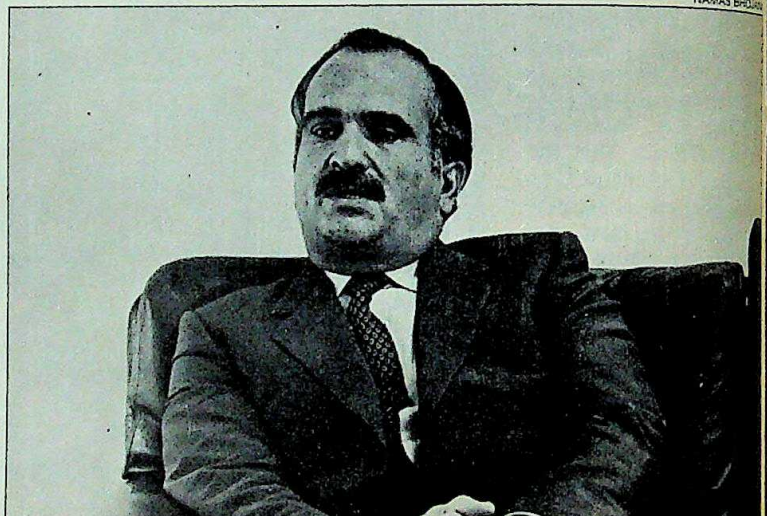
Q. *What is the Jordanian game-plan?*

A. We are in touch with world leaders; Amman has become something of a focal point. We are continuing to be in contact with the parties directly concerned. Jordan still recognises the Emir regime in Kuwait. There are two planes to the crisis. The international consumer is deeply worried: 4 million barrels per day at $15 more a barrel is a lot more to pay. But it is going to hurt the Third World and East European countries even more.

Q. *How are Arab countries coping with popular resentment against the Saudi decision to allow US troops?*

A. There is tremendous resentment in the streets about the presence—overwhelming, unprecedented—of hundreds of thousands of foreign troops. They ask: Why over Kuwait? Why not over Palestine when in the same UN Security Council the United States vetoed the resolution to allow a fact-finding mission to visit occupied

NAMAS BHOJANI



The Crown Prince: looking for peace

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

territories? It is that desperation and frustration which has led to a change of heart. If they had been introduced with a political mandate that was clear, it would have been all right, but it was sought retroactively, with UN Resolution 665 about "minimum force". The move from sanctions to embargo was one phase rather than a progressive movement.

Q. But some Arab and Muslim countries have sent troops.

A. Yes, but some like the King of Morocco said it was a decision taken in haste and room had to be kept for an Arab solution.

Q. And what exactly is an Arab solution?

A. Elements in the solution have to include the final containment and resolution of the Kuwait-Iraq issue. In '58 the Iraqi government of that time had raised the issue. Again in '61, Iraq had taken action against Kuwait. Saddam comes up with statements in successive Arab summits that waging an economic war against Iraq is tantamount to waging a war by other means. Every decade has seen a villain in western eyes: Nasser over Suez, Gaddafi, Ayatollah Khomeini and the threat to the Gulf. At that moment it was very convenient to support Iraq against Iran in a war which lasted eight years, cost a trillion dollars, leading to death and maiming of more than a million on both sides. But nobody wanted an immediate conflict resolution there. That's why I call this an Orwellian crisis. Even an international oil government, with an offshore presence protected by international forces is something that popular Arab and Muslim perceptions oppose. A regional issue has to be solved regionally.

Q. Would you say that the Iraqi aggression has given the United States the excuse to station troops in the Gulf?

A. Well, I think the Desert Shield had been planned, so clearly there had been some thinking on this eventuality. So in that sense I agree with you.

Q. Do you think amidst the euphoria over events in Eastern Europe last year the Palestinian problem got neglected?

A. The Middle East has been marginalised for so long. We have complained about it. Now we are in the cockpit of the world's attention, for the wrong reasons. So I hope that statesmanship does emerge, but there is a saying that a statesman is a dead politician!

Q. Would you say that the Gulf regimes are an anachronism in our time?

A. It is interesting to look at the objection to autocracy and the demand for restoration of former political order in the Gulf states. What does the West seek: continuation of oligarchy? Or does it seek democratic solutions? We have countries with $15,000 per capita income and $100 per capita in Arab Muslim countries. There has to be redistribution among oil-exporting and manpower exporting Arab countries.

Q. Isn't there an anomaly in the international demand for restoration of a regime which was unelected?

A. What I say analytically is obviously going to get controversial. My compatriots in the Gulf may have difficulty in understanding Jordan's message. I'd like to say that the political integrity of Gulf states is very important, even to establish what's described disparagingly as the myth of Arab unity. But I'd also like to say that for over 20 years, the manpower exporting countries like mine and Egypt, have been calling for a new regional economic order.

> "We are finding it enormously difficult to justify to our people the massive build-up in Saudi Arabia."
>
> "India is one country which can play a role—it has weight and moral authority in the Arab context."

Q. Has internationalisation of the regional conflict made an Arab solution impossible?

A. Well, my rhetorical question is how long can you justify the massive troop presence, unless either you justify the rationale, which is to use moral weightage of intervention to bring the Iraqis out, or use it militarily, which is dangerous. We are finding it enormously difficult to justify to our people the massive build-up in Saudi Arabia.

Q. Has this crisis divided the Arab world irreparably?

A. I think there is deep suspicion, deep hurt and worries about the future but there is still hope for containing this division. How can you talk of an Arab force alongside foreign forces fighting against Arab forces? How can war solve anything? Are these troops representing a form of oil colonialism?

Q. Has the time come to face the Palestinian question squarely?

A. Clearly elements of equivalence in the three situations (Palestine, Lebanon and Gulf) is there. I don't want to get into hot water, but I'm interested to know that even Turkey is opposed to occupation and aggression. Full stop *(chuckles)*.

Q. So Middle East deserves a look, is it?

A. Of course, if the Middle East is important, then let's make sure that the stability of the world is not affected by violence and militancy. The only ones who stand to gain from the present turmoil are the Israelis who're now saying because of instability in the region we can't trust the Arabs.

Q. In view of your close relations with the United States, have you received or sought any assurance from them that they won't fire first?

A. Our understanding is that the presence of American troops is to deter Iraq from aggression against Saudi. But Douglas MacArthur led a multinational force in Korea in which the principal partner was the USA, and the rest is history.

Q. Do you see any Indian role in mediation?

A. Well, I believe it is one country which can play a role, it has weight and moral authority in the Arab context. India is not in the multinational force, it therefore has a distinct role. But first we have to contain the escalation. If governments like the Indian and other Arab governments can talk to Iraq, and say, let's look for a political solution, tell them, look, this is what UN members are saying, how would you respond? Then Iraq is likely to tell you, we have been wanting to talk, but nobody is talking to us.

Q. Do you think the winner is going to be the fundamentalist?

A. We must address this image of the ugly Arab or the Muslim. We are also people, but after the Cold War, when there is no enemy, is the world looking for one? Arabs aren't terrorists. Stereotyping is awful. Saddam equals Hitler. Arab equals terrorist. Muslim equals fundamentalist. And now, of course, there are some good and bad Muslims, or pro- and anti-American Muslims.

Q. So Francis Fukuyama's thesis that history has ended isn't valid.

A. The problem with history is that we never learn from reading it.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

MANDAL COMMISSION

No-Win Gambit

SPEAKING from the ramparts of the Red Fort on Independence Day, the prime minister confirmed his commitment to the implementation of the Mandal Commission's recommendations. Since then, there has been an almost non-stop series of rallies, riots and bandhs across the Hindi belt.

In order to assess the implications of these events on the electoral prospects, INDIA TODAY *commissioned Marketing and Research Group* (MARG), *the country's leading independent market research agency, to conduct an opinion poll in the Hindi belt.*

The constituencies were selected by well-known psephologist Prannoy Roy, who analysed the data got from interviewing 5,392 voters between September 1 and 6, and projected it to the number of seats likely to be won by the various parties.

The poll findings are reported by Prannoy Roy and MARG.

Viewed narrowly in terms of the votes gained or lost for the Janata Dal, the implementation of the Mandal Commission report appears to have landed Prime Minister V.P. Singh in a 'no-win' situation. While he may not have lost many votes, the poll shows that the Mandal Commission is not the vote bonanza that many in the Government were expecting.

The poll's findings suggest that:

► The strength of feeling against the Mandal Commission is so strong amongst the 'forward castes' that a very high proportion of them will now vote against the Janata Dal. The result is a large 9-10 per cent swing away from the Janata Dal among these castes.

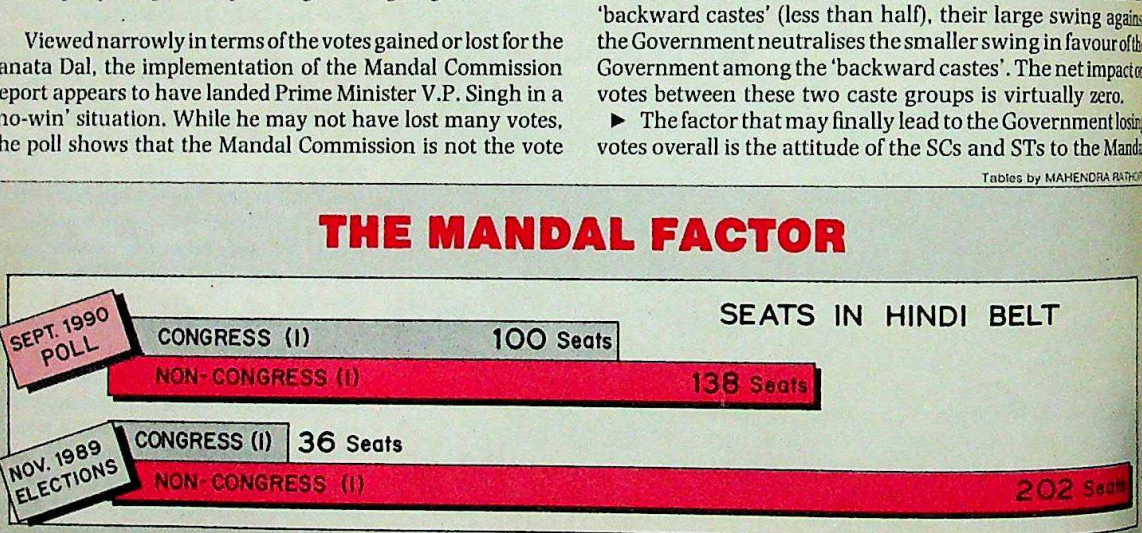
► While the backward castes are clearly in favour of the Mandal Commission, now that the recommendations have been implemented, the positive mood of the backward castes will not be fully translated into votes. The result is a relatively low 2 per cent swing in favour of the Janata Dal.

► While the 'forward castes' are fewer in number than the 'backward castes' (less than half), their large swing against the Government neutralises the smaller swing in favour of the Government among the 'backward castes'. The net impact on votes between these two caste groups is virtually zero.

► The factor that may finally lead to the Government losing votes overall is the attitude of the SCs and STs to the Mandal

Tables by MAHENDRA RATHORE

THE MANDAL FACTOR



	% in the Hindi Belt**	Swing For (+) Against (−) Janata Dal	Overall Impact For (+) Against (−) Dal***
Forward Castes*	15-25	−9.3	−1.4
Backward Castes*	35-45	+1.8	+0.4
SCs/STs	26	−6.1	−0.7
Muslims	12	—	—
Other non-Hindus	2	—	—
TOTAL	—	—	−1.7

(All figures in percentages)

*Since the 1931 census, no data has been collected on the caste of citizens. The figures here are estimates based on discussions with various informed sources.

**Hindi belt includes Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Delhi.

***Adjusted for current levels of awareness of Mandal Commission.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Commission. The poll shows that while these castes are in favour of reservation for themselves, they oppose reservation for the 'backward castes' because they see them as their immediate oppressors. The result is a sizeable 6 per cent swing away from the Government.

▶ The net effect of these swings is that if an election were to be held today the Government would lose 25 seats in the Hindi belt. As the poll was not conducted in other parts of the country it does not reflect an all-India assessment.

One reason for the relatively small swing among the backward castes in favour of the Government could be that as the report has already been implemented, it has lost its sharpness as an election issue. If, however, that concession were to be taken away or threatened, the promise of its restoration would naturally, once again, become an election issue for the backward castes. Under those circumstances, the swing in favour of the Government among the backward castes would be much greater. The swings reported in this poll reflect the mood and circumstances as they exist today.

There are no reliable estimates of the distribution of castes in north India. Recent census data exists for SCs and STs as well as for different religions. Estimates of the forward and backward castes have been projected from data in the 1931 and 1891 census as well as other surveys and informed sources. Nevertheless, as no precise figures exist, a range of percentages has been given.

POLITICAL PLOY?

AGAIN there is a strong caste divide in the responses. The upper castes see the move to give reservation as a way of gaining votes. The backward castes, SCs/STs and the Muslims see the move as one that will benefit the country.

WHY HAS V.P. SINGH TAKEN THIS STEP?

	To Gain Votes	To Benefit The Country
Forward Castes	75	25
Backward Castes	33	67
SCs/STs	31	69
Muslims	32	68
Other Non-Hindus	73	27
ALL VOTERS	43	57

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

AWARENESS OF THE MANDAL REPORT

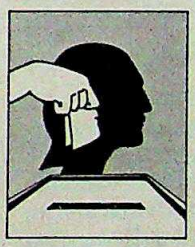
A majority of voters are aware of the Mandal Commission report and its recommendations. However, the awareness level is much higher among the forward castes (among whom the awareness was as high as 73 per cent) than among the backward castes, SC/STs or Muslims (among whom the awareness was around 50 per cent).

AWARENESS LEVEL

	Aware	Not Aware
Forward Castes	73	27
Backward Castes	48	52
SCs/STs	47	53
Muslims	52	48
Other Non-Hindus	86	14
ALL VOTERS	55	45

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

WILL IT AFFECT VOTING BEHAVIOUR?



MARG interviewers asked all respondents whether they felt strongly enough about reservation for the backward classes for it to affect their vote at the next general elections.

Two-thirds of all voters (and 75 per cent of the forward castes) said that the reservation issue would affect their vote at the next Lok Sabha elections.

EFFECT ON VOTING BEHAVIOUR

	Affect Vote? Yes	No
Forward Castes	75	25
Backward Castes	66	34
SCs/STs	61	39
Muslims	73	27
Other Non-Hindus	69	31
ALL VOTERS	68	32

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

RESERVATIONS OR NOT?

	Yes	No
Forward Castes	36	64
Backward Castes	80	20
SCs/STs	90	10
Muslims	77	23
Other Non-Hindus	39	61
ALL VOTERS	71	29

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

DIVIDED VIEWS

THERE is a strong polarisation in the views of the electorate. The backward castes, SCs/STs and Muslims who were interviewed for the opinion poll strongly back reservation in Central Government jobs. On the other hand, the forward castes and other non-Hindus have reacted negatively to the idea.

ECONOMIC OR SOCIAL REASON?

THE pro-reservationists' main argument was it helps to reduce economic inequalities of the backward castes. Many felt it would help backward classes gain social acceptability.

THE MERIT QUESTION

THOSE who opposed reservation did so primarily because it ignored merit and because it would increase inter-caste tensions.

WHY IN FAVOUR OF RESERVATIONS?

Reduces economic inequalities	53
Gives them social respectability	29
Reduces upper class influence	18

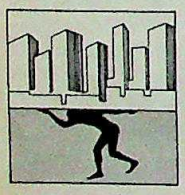
('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

WHY AGAINST RESERVATIONS?

Ignores merit	54
Increases inter-caste tensions	37
Decreases efficiency	9

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

PREDICTABLE DIVIDE



THE consensus among SCs/STs interviewed is that discrimination is being practised against backward castes both in educational institutions and in Central Government jobs. But the majority of forward castes feel the backward castes do not suffer any discrimination.

STUNNING UNANIMITY

THERE is consensus among the voters that it would be better to have reservation on economic grounds than on caste alone. The backward castes and SCs/STs also share this view perhaps because they hope to also benefit from a policy based on a 'means test'.

IS THERE DISCRIMINATION?

	In Schools & Colleges Yes	In Schools & Colleges No	In Central Govt. Jobs Yes	In Central Govt. Jobs No
Forward Castes	35	65	38	62
Backward Castes	47	53	50	50
SCs/STs	59	41	65	35
Muslims	52	48	51	49
Other Non-Hindus	32	68	37	63
ALL VOTERS	47	53	51	49

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

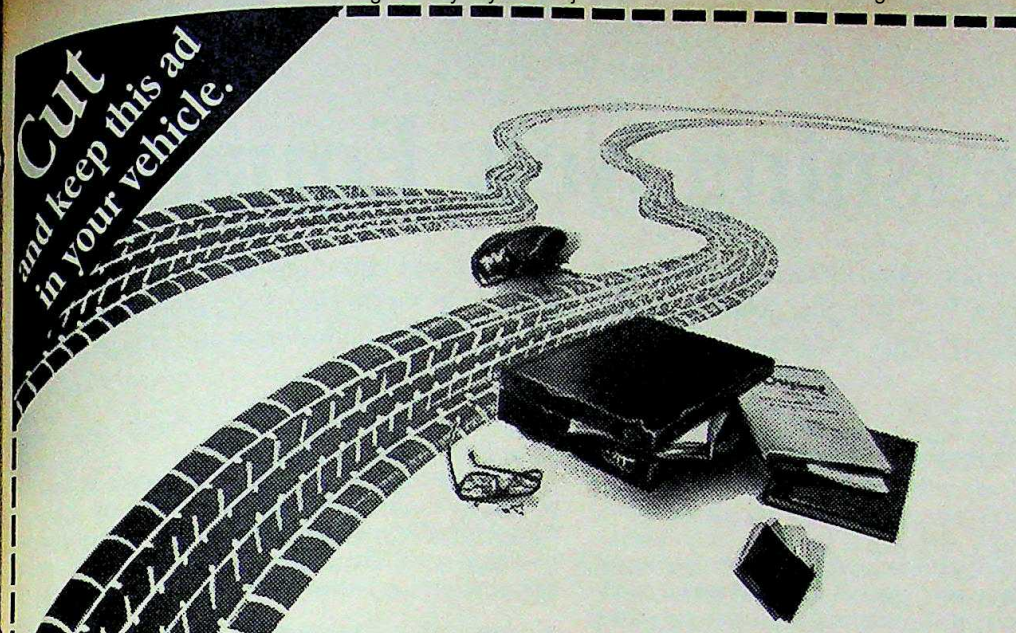
ECONOMIC NEED OR CASTE

	Economic Need	Caste Need
Forward Castes	94	6
Backward Castes	84	16
SCs/STs	83	17
Muslims	91	9
Other Non-Hindus	92	8
ALL VOTERS	87	13

('Don't knows' excluded) (All figures in percentages)

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



You'll need it in case somebody is knocked down accidentally.

It can happen to the safest driver. As you are driving, suddenly, you knock down somebody. And the person is injured, sometimes fatally.

If a third party is injured, or property is damaged, do the following:-

- Though not obligatory under motor insurance, please help to move the injured person to a hospital for treatment.
- Inform the insurance company describing the nature of injury or damage.
- Please follow the advice of the insurance company. Do not promise any compensation to any third party who is involved in the accident without consulting the insurance company.
- In case of Police prosecution, seek legal counsel and keep the insurance company informed.
- If your paid driver is involved, please take down the particulars of his driving licence. Please see that the driver is available in future for investigation.
- If you receive any notice of claim from the third party, Motor Accident Claims Tribunal, or a Court of Law, intimate your insurance company immediately.
- Send all notices and summons you receive concerning the accident to the insurance company. The insurance company will attend to all of them on your behalf.

If your own vehicle is damaged, follow the procedures carefully for making a motor insurance claim.

Please help us to help you in getting the claims recovery faster.

File your claim right and it will be processed in the quickest possible time:

आपत्काले रक्षिष्यामि

GENERAL INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA

NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED | THE NEW INDIA ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED | THE ORIENTAL INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED | UNITED INDIA INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

R K SWAMY/GIC/168 B

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

MANDAL COMMISSION

Unleashing New Equations

As it has done to all sections of society, the Mandal Commission report has split the political parties along caste and class lines. Suddenly, unexpected alliances and equations have emerged, as leaders struggle to juggle electoral politics with caste affiliations and party ideologies and policies.

by PRABHU CHAWLA

THE JANATA DAL: AT WAR WITH ITSELF

PRIME Minister V.P. Singh's decision to implement the report of the Mandal Commission has not only balkanised public opinion in the nation but also polarised political forces within the ruling National Front. In the topsy-turvy world of Singh, friends have turned into foes and enemies into allies.

Much of the ferment in the ruling party is directly linked to the level of protest in various states. For example, when violent demonstrators fell to police bullets in Orissa, Chief Minister Biju Patnaik raised the first standard of revolt, angrily accusing the prime minister of inciting caste violence.

Until he spoke out, Patnaik was among Singh's staunchest supporters. So when his statement was splashed countrywide a sense of doom gripped the party. But when more than a dozen MPs from Orissa called on Singh and told him they were opposed to Biju's outburst, he sensed an incipient revolt in his own house, and within 24 hours had softened his own stand.

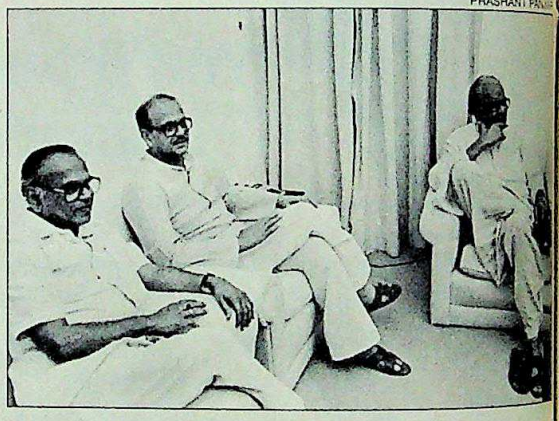
Clearly, few in the party could muster the courage to publicly decry the Mandal Commission report. During the five-week Parliament session, V.P. Singh called four National Front Parliamentary Party meetings—and not once did he face any hostility. Chandra Shekhar and his proteges like Yashwant Sinha and Harmohan Dhawan condemned the Mandal move publicly, but none dared oppose it in the meetings. Said Jaipal Reddy, spokesman of the Janata Dal: "It was part of our election manifesto and he as a loyal party soldier is determined to implement it." Retorted Dhawan, the new general secretary of the National Front Parliamentary Party: "It is not a question of the manifesto. Should we plunge the country into a caste war just for retaining power?"

But the Dhawans were in a hopeless minority, and stood arrayed against powerful backward leaders like Hukum Dev Narayan Yadav and Ram Avdesh Singh from Bihar, Satya Prakash Malaviya, Janata Dal general secretary, and Ram Dhan, a prominent Harijan leader, who from being arch foes of Singh had overnight become his most ardent supporters. Even Janata Dal President S.R. Bommai, after initial reticence, came out roaring in favour of the move. Said he: "If the report is not implemented, there will be a bloody revolution in the country." Industry Minister Ajit Singh directed his supporters to organise pro-Mandal rallies. Arun Nehru and Arif Mohammed Khan were the only Central ministers who dissented.

The realignment of political forces occurred in the states too. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Mulayam Singh Yadav, who had been flirting with Chandra Shekhar for the last few months, did a flip and almost disowned his mentor. When asked to comment on Chandra Shekhar's criticism of the reservation policy, he said: "I do not believe a senior party leader like Chandra Shekhar could make such a remark against the Mandal Commission."

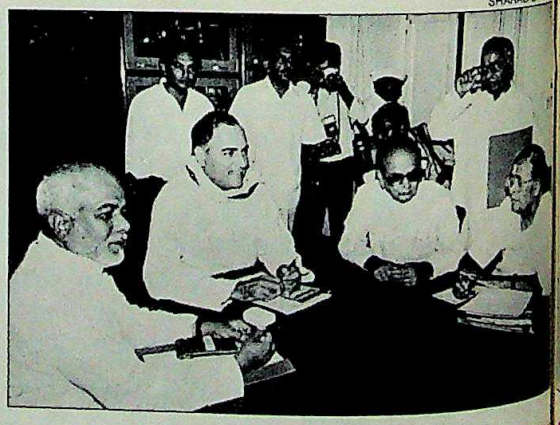
Interestingly, in the south—the bastion of caste-based politics—V.P. Singh picked up supporters, with even several Congress(I) MPs privately pledging him their support in case of a political crisis. The net result was that while he had lost a following outside, he had gained it within the party. But it was

PRASHANT PANJIAR



■ Bommai, Singh and Patnaik: contrary positions

SHARAD SAKHARDANDE



■ Congress(I) Working Committee meeting: divergent views

still unclear whether the polarisation would give him the political stability he so desperately requires. However, one thing was clear: if the Janata Dal splits now it will be along regional and caste lines, and not over any personality clash. Singh's Thakur base is largely intact because the powerful Thakur lobby feels a few piffling government jobs will affect them not in the least. The real fight now will be between the former Janata Party faction in north India and a combination

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

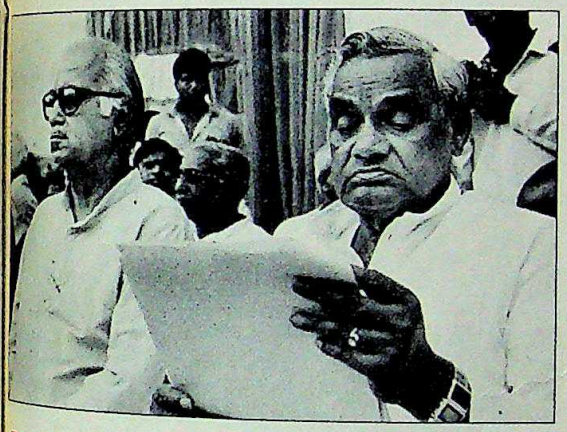
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

of the backwards, the Muslims and the lower caste politicians from the south. Singh may be the first upper caste prime minister since Independence to take over the leadership of the Muslims and the backwards, but his hold over the faction-ridden ruling party seems increasingly tenuous.

CONGRESS(I): A STEP FORWARD, TWO BACKWARDS

WHILE the ruling party was mired in seemingly intractable conflicts, the Congress(I) was faring no better. In fact, its performance in Parliament and outside made it clear the party was not only divided on the issue but was as guilty as the Janata Dal in abetting violence. To begin with, it stood accused of tardiness, taking almost three weeks to make known its stand on the Mandal report. While its student leaders protested in Delhi, the party maintained a cryptic silence.

But this did not mean the party lacked opinions on the whole issue. In fact, when the 22-member Congress(I) Working Committee (CWC-I) and 12-member Political Affairs Committee met jointly on September 3, the conclave turned out to be a stormy affair. Rajiv Gandhi brought a resolution,



Advani and Vajpayee: hedging their bets

PRASHANT PANJIAR

Nayanar, Chakroborthy and Basu: divided stand

drafted by Mani Shankar Aiyer, which closely advocated the total rejection of the Mandal report. However, no sooner did the meeting begin than the party stood clearly divided along caste and class lines. Vasant Sathe, a Brahmin, attacked the report, declaring: "V.P. Singh is reviving the caste system. The party must fight it." Only to come up against an aggressive array of backward class leaders like B. Shankaranand, Sita Ram Kesari, P. Shiv Shanker, D.P. Yadav and Margatham Chandrashekhar. "The Congress," they countered, "has always fought for the downtrodden. How can we oppose the Mandal report now?"

Rajiv was forced to reach for a compromise. A four-member committee consisting of H.K.L. Bhagat, V.N. Gadgil, Shankaranand and D.P. Yadav was entrusted with the job of preparing a consensus draft. But the new draft the committee chiselled raised fresh dust. And it was almost seven hours of heated discussions later that the CWC(I) was able to adopt a resolution. Some of Rajiv's suggestions were accepted, but he had to yield to the majority view that the Mandal report could not be rejected in its entirety. Rajiv admitted in an interview to a daily that he was overruled.

In Parliament he, however, stuck to his own views. During his three-hour speech, thin on substance, he attempted to demolish the entire report. When pushed to the wall by the prime minister, he even admitted that the Congress(I) policies of introducing caste-based reservations in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh were a mistake. This backfired as it demoralised the south Indian MPs who constitute two-thirds of the party's Lok Sabha strength. Rajiv then tried to target V.P. Singh, and incited the MPs to fight the "obstinacy of a single individual". Singh, with typically casual wiliness, trapped Rajiv by quoting from the deposition of Shiv Shanker who as law minister in 1981 advised the Mandal Commission against injecting any economic criterion for reservations. Rajiv bore this news in stumped silence.

That the Mandal report had hopelessly divided the party along caste lines as nothing ever before was evident when Charanjit Yadav, a backward leader, openly welcomed the reservations even as none of the three Congress(I) chief ministers supported Rajiv's viewpoint. In the final count, the Congress(I) failed to wrest any advantage from the Mandal move, and if anything, opened itself up to new contradictions.

THE BJP AND THE LEFT: SITTING ON THE FENCE

Even the two cadre-based parties—the crutches of the ruling National Front—were convulsed by the Mandal virus. Superficially, while the BJP appeared united in favour of Mandal, the left parties were almost vertically divided. The CPI was the first to come out in defence of the reservations, while the CPI(M)'s central committee took nearly two weeks to formulate its pro-Mandal tack, but not before displaying fissures along regional lines on the issue. While the West Bengal clique was against, the Kerala group was for Mandal. In Parliament CPI(M) members were among the few aggressive supporters of the Government. Subhasini Ali, CPI(M)'s most vocal Lok Sabha member, declared: "We are for the implementation of the report." And she went around campuses mobilising support for the Mandal report.

In the BJP it was virtual bedlam. It stood more undermined by the Mandal missile than any other, its meticulously orchestrated efforts to unite the Hindus along religious lines were in danger of being defeated as the community stood shrapnelled along caste and class lines. Both L.K. Advani and Atal Behari Vajpayee almost threatened to withdraw their support if the Government did not review its stand, yet they failed to come out with a clear thesis against the reservations. Even so, the BJP faced the wrath of the anti-reservationists, and the BJP-ruled Himachal Pradesh—which rejected the report—was the first state to call in the army to quell riots. But the BJP was not completely devoid of Mandal supporters. Many of its backward MPs from Rajasthan and Bihar bore upon the party to keep its stand on the issue low-key. Sitting astride the horns of a dilemma, this it was forced to do in any case.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

MANDAL COMMISSION

A Spreading Stir

The protest was scattered, the incidents sporadic and the movement loose-knit. But the anger was spontaneous and widespread. The anti-reservation movement sparked off by the decision to implement the Mandal Commission report may be rudderless. But events of the past month indicate that should the simmering anger be tapped, the movement could gain momentum and even leave the Government wondering whether the political gains are outweighed by the losses.

DELHI: Despite being the nation's capital, Delhi is by no means a politically volatile city. But with its normally placid student community taking to the streets, post-Mandal it has been transformed into a city of bandhs and rallies. Though the lack of coordination between the various student groups spearheading the stir made some of the bandhs somewhat farcical, the agitation clearly had the Government worried. In a clear case of overkill, the administration closed all schools and colleges for a month while, fearing vandalism, the Delhi Transport Corporation ordered the removal of glasspanes from all its buses.

Though the student groups showed good sense in persuading the protestors to abandon the casteist slogans raised during the initial anti-Mandal hysteria, Sharad Yadav continued exhorting the backwards to come out into the streets for a numerical showdown with the anti-reservationists. He must have been dismayed when despite pouring rain an anti-Mandal rally was attended by over 50,000 while rainfall washed out a pro-Mandal rally the next day—a pointer to which way the views of the capital's citizenry veer.

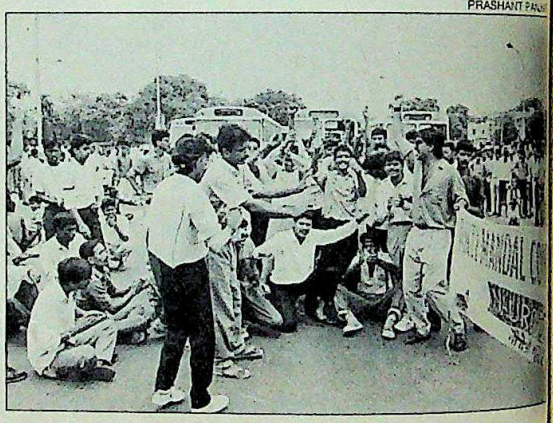
BIHAR: Though Laloo Prasad Yadav is one of the chief ministers who stand to gain the most from the implementation of the commission report, in an irony typical of modern India, his state has witnessed some of the bloodiest anti-Mandal protests which claimed seven lives. The reason is not difficult to spot. There are the backwards and there are the 'forwards' among the backwards—like some Yadavs, Kurmis and Keoris—who have gained both economic and political power over the years and are often more than a match for the genuinely forward castes like the Bhumihars, Brahmins and Rajputs. And in a state which has still not been able to shake off the vestiges of feudalism, it is only to be expected that all these powerful groups should be openly commandeering their armies of lumpens to gear up for a possible caste war.

And in keeping with the vitiated atmosphere in the state, the chief minister has issued statements like "this government is not going to reverse its decision even if people opposed to it break their heads". The issue has also split political parties along caste lines. Though the Congress(I) continues to pay lip-service to the report, former chief minister Jagannath Mishra has taken a firm anti-Mandal posture. But this did not stop the Congress(I)'s deputy leader in the Assembly, Ramlakhan Singh Yadav, from describing V.P. Singh as the "messiah of the backwards" at a pro-reservation rally.

So angry are Bihar's upper castes that an organisation called the Rastriya Swarna Mukti Morcha (national upper caste liberation front) has been set up in Bhumihar-dominated Muzaffarpur district to demand a separate 'Swarna Rajya' (upper caste state) comprising areas in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and Haryana. That is one state Laloo Yadav could do without.

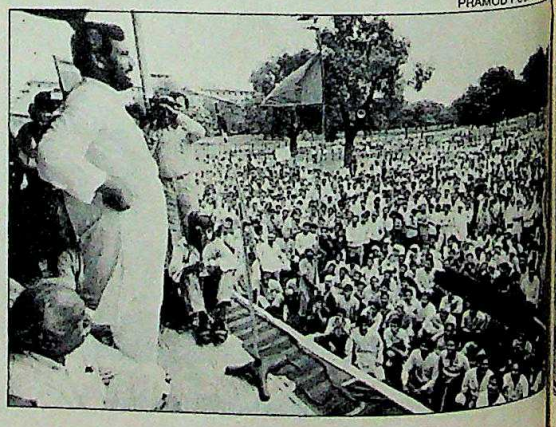
UTTAR PRADESH: The other big beneficiary of the commission report, Mulayam Singh Yadav, has fewer troubles. Though the anti-Mandal agitation has claimed three lives, it has less potential for an all-out caste war. Still, normal

PRASHANT PANJIAR



■ Students block traffic in the heart of New Delhi

PRAMOD PUSHKARNA



■ Paswan at a pro-reservation rally in the capital

life has been disrupted in most of the districts. But for a couple of universities, all the state universities and 350 odd degree colleges have closed and disruption of rail and road traffic besides attacks on government property have become routine. More than 3,500 students have been rounded up in connection with the violence though not all the protestors

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

resorting to violence. In Lucknow, medicos and other students are polishing shoes and cleaning cars and taking out processions in which they ply rickshaws—to make the point that this is what they are likely to end up doing if the Government reserves more jobs.

But Yadav seems completely unconcerned about their fate. On one occasion he said: "There should be more reservation than what is suggested in the report. Only a handful of people are feeling bad and our government is not bothered about them." And just in case the protestors missed the message, he also egged on the backwards to "come out and fight these anti-reservationists on the streets".

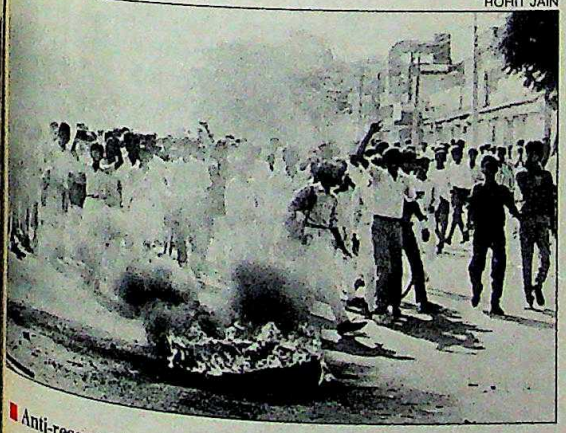
ORISSA: Unlike the two Yadavs, Chief Minister Biju Patnaik does not need V.P. Singh's help to create a vote bank. He has a clear majority in the Assembly, one reason why he has turned out to be the rare Janata Dal chief minister who has not merely decided against implementing the report but also come out publicly against caste-based reservations. In a letter to the prime minister, Patnaik wrote: "If the lot of backward classes has not improved despite reservations in the past so many years, they would be no better in next generations too."

The fact that violence continued (the death toll was six) even after the chief minister's announcement indicated that

PRABHAKAR

Police carry away an anti-Mandal protestor in Bihar

ROHIT JAIN



Anti-reservationists indulge in arson in Rajasthan

the Congress(I) was fomenting the trouble. And there was enough proof that students had been replaced by gangs of youth paid to indulge in rioting and arson: of the 40-odd youth treated at a Bhubaneswar hospital for injuries sustained in the violence, no less than 24 belonged to castes which actually stood to benefit from the Mandal report; four of the six killed in police firing also belonged to backward classes; and the state NSUI President Lalatendu Mohapatra, a close aide of former chief minister J.B. Patnaik, was arrested as the prime motivator behind the burning of a bus driver at Utkal University. The Congress(I)—particularly J.B. Patnaik—had found the perfect excuse to try and destabilise the Government and avenge its humiliating defeat at the hustings.

HIMACHAL PRADESH: The army had to be called out in half a dozen towns of the tiny hill state as clashes between pro and anti-reservationists got out of hand, government buildings were burnt down, educational institutions remained closed and the functioning of banks and postal services was disrupted. At this point the BJP Chief Minister Shanta Kumar rejected the report outright and announced that the Government proposed to implement the 'antodaya scheme' instead, by which one lakh poor families will be chosen for benefits. But the anti-reservationists were not satisfied and the stir in Himachal took on a significant dimension when they demanded the scrapping of even the existing 22.5 per cent reservation given to Scheduled Castes and Tribes. In Nahan township there were ominous portents as shopkeepers decided to socially boycott Harijans and the Harijans in turn remained put in their *bastis*.

PUNJAB AND HARYANA: Students managed to paralyse normal life in Chandigarh, the capital shared by the two states. Thankfully, except for sporadic incidents, the agitation did not take a violent turn. In Punjab, the protest was even more muted as the Government announced that it would leave it to a popular government to decide on implementing the report and because the various Akali and militant groups seemed unable to take a stand on the issue.

Haryana witnessed far more trouble (road and rail blockades, violent clashes) possibly because the state Government was not exactly averse to fomenting it. Chief Minister Hukam Singh—a Chautala protege—welcomed the implementation of the Mandal Commission report but then in an obvious attempt to embarrass the Union Government, appointed a Backward Classes Commission. He claimed to have done so because deputations of many communities, including Jats, Jat-Sikhs, Ahirs, Gujjars, Sainis, Rodes and Moos, had complained that despite being socially and economically backward, they had not been included in the list of beneficiaries. The move—undoubtedly masterminded by the Devi Lal-Chautala duo—is a blatant attempt to declare the entire agricultural community in Haryana as backward.

GUJARAT: If the state with one of the bloodiest records of anti-reservation riots remained relatively peaceful this time round, it was largely due to the shrewd handling of the situation by Chief Minister Chimanbhai Patel. Just as the agitation seemed to be taking off, he announced that the state would not implement the commission's recommendations as it had not been able to fill even the existing 31 per cent reservation quota, of which 10 per cent is for OBCs. Even those sections which would have liked to agitate were left without a cause.

ANDHRA PRADESH: While the rest of the south remained peaceful, Congress(I) ruled Andhra Pradesh had its share of rail and rasta rokos, protest rallies and bandhs. Stray incidents of arson were reported, though mercifully no lives were lost. If the agitation did not take an ugly turn it was possibly because it was a spontaneous student movement and not one engineered by political parties.

From the north to the south, the anti-reservation stir may have taken a haphazard, even disjointed path. But the message that a large section of the nation's people had overnight been alienated from their rulers was flashed loud and clear. —SABA NAQVI BHAUMIK with bureau reports

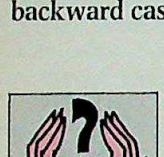
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

MANDAL COMMISSION

The Great Debate

THE decision to implement the Mandal Commission recommendations by the National Front Government was hailed by its proponents as a historic step to break the shackles of some 3,743 backward castes. However, critics are just as firm in their stand that the move is aimed at politica consolidation in the garb of helping the needy INDIA TODAY talked to politicians, academic and bureaucrats for and against the policy to seek their opinion. A synthesis of their views:



DOES THE MANDAL COMMISSION HELP THE BACKWARDS?

FOR BACKWARD castes need better representation in the administrative machinery. Even though they constitute 52 per cent of the country's population their representation in Central government jobs stands at an abysmal 4.69 per cent. Reservations will also achieve social egalitarianism by breaking the psychological barriers of the backwards by bringing them into positions of power in the Government—however minuscule the actual number of jobs involved. Even though, as Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh admits, only 1 per cent of all jobs are created by the Centre each year, the scheme is necessary because it gives the backwards a sense of being part of governance—the system—and compensates for generations of discrimination. Moreover, it also paves the ground for upward mobility. Opposition to reservations is merely an attempt by upper castes to preserve the monopoly that they have had over the power structure for generations.

AGAINST USING percentiles of caste representation based on the Mandal Commission report is an unmitigated fraud. The very statistical foundations for the pro-Mandal argument are unsustainable. Mandal's data is derived from the caste enumeration of the 1931 census. He used this as his data base to arrive at his conclusions taking into account population changes as reflected in the 1971 census which was not broken down according to caste. In the 40 years that elapsed between 1931 and 1971 there was no way of knowing which castes had moved up or down the socio-economic ladder. His conclusions, therefore, are hypothetical projections.

The Constitution advocates ameliorative measures for deprived socio-economic classes. However, Mandal converted class to caste without giving a precise definition of how he arrived at his definition of "backward". In fact, Mandal himself admits that his methodology was faulty. Moreover, even the three experts—B.K. Roy Burman, M.N. Srinivas and Yogendra Singh—who were attached to his commission have now come out and disowned the validity and accuracy of the report.

Mandal also ignores the sweeping changes that have occurred throughout the country over the last 40 years—more education, land reforms, industrialisation, proliferation of skilled manpower—that have benefited the so-called backward castes many of whom now are large land-holders. Reservations are bound to help only a marginal elite of the backwards. Or why else is the Government resisting classifying the underprivileged according to economic criteria? The long-term cost in terms of caste-polarisation and flaring up of internecine hatreds will be far higher than any imaginary benefit.

WILL IT PROMOTE CASTE EQUALITY?

WHAT Gandhian ideology did for the Harijans, Mandalism will do for the backwards. Because of reservations in jobs on the basis of caste, the backwards now have an identity as a composite pressure group. This is a concrete achievement which will help them unite and fight for equality. Says Bahujan Samaj Party leader Kanshi Ram: "The reservation for SCs and STs began with only 2 per cent in 1935. Now it is 22.5 per cent. Gradually, all the reservations will be according to the proportion of different castes in the population. My aim is to give reservation (to the upper caste minorities), not to demand it. V.P. Singh has made my job easier."

THIS may lead to an Orwellian situation where some castes will be more equal than others. It will strengthen the caste-system because genetic heritage will become the basis for discrimination. Caste-based quotas will lay down that privileges should be extended to the groups and not to the individuals. It may unleash a more-backward-than-thou race among various castes for the limited spoils, lead to corruption in the certification of castes, and raise expectations. The already intense competition gets worsened when caste becomes the basis for selection. Thus it will lead to inter-caste rivalries. Since the new policy does not consider all castes equal, inequalities within the government departments will increase.

DOES IT VIOLATE THE CONSTITUTION?

THE distinction between castes and classes is blurred anyway. So even the Constitution does not provide for caste-based reservation, it is desirable. Since caste is still a dominant factor in our social behaviour, its existence should be admitted for identifying the unprivileged groups. Because

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

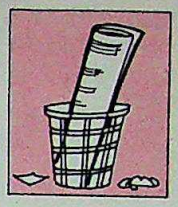
backwards have been deprived for ages on the basis of their caste, now they should be provided facilities on the same basis. Says Lok Dal MP Ram Avdhesh Singh: "Even the rich backwards are not given social status, which poor forwards enjoy. That is why we need representation in the Government on a caste basis, where wealth and respect go hand in hand. These reservations are not for the economic good, but to link backwards with the state."

CASTE can be a basis for discrimination only in special cases. After two years of intense debate in the Constituent Assembly and at public platforms, the framers of the Constitution decided to extend state patronage to Scheduled Castes because they were out of the social system on account of their "untouchability" and the Scheduled Tribes because of their social isolation due to geographical reasons. But even after 40 years of reservations for SCs and STs their representation in government is less than the 22.5 per cent quota reserved for them which clearly shows that not reservations but other measures such as strictly enforcing equality of opportunity regulations and guaranteeing equal access to education may be the more effective alternative. Says Dr Yogendra Singh, dean of political science in JNU: "Forty years have seen enormous differentiation in class and caste divisions. Caste should not be the central element in dispensing social justice. In fact, there should be a process of gradual delegitimisation of caste by finding scientific methods for the exit of SC and ST members from the reserved quotas".

SHOULD THE GOVERNMENT DO SOCIAL ENGINEERING?

TO achieve a just and equal society, the Government has the mandate to destroy social discrepancies by engineering a system of checks and balances. The Mandal Commission has identified caste-groups by several criteria including the number of matriculates in the community, practice of child marriages, availability of potable water and the percentage living in thatched huts. This is a serious effort to improve the lot of the backwards who have only 4.69 per cent representation in class I jobs in the Central Government, though they constitute 52 per cent of the country.

RESERVATIONS for the backwards in Central Government jobs do not improve the plight of their communities. Selection of an IAS officer from a backward village does not ensure a high literacy rate, adequate potable water or better housing. Families that have benefited from job reservations have not raised their real standards of living because they have not practised family planning. In a vicious circle, they produce more children and ask for more reservations. Right now reservations reach only the individual, who benefits from the collective backwardness of his caste. Even if the argument of under-representation in government was valid at some point, the reservation of government jobs is a gratuitous exercise that ignores reality. The real power in any society—political clout—has shifted in favour of the backwards, almost wholesale in the south, and in massive strides in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh where they constitute nearly 40 per cent of the legislative strength. Reservations short circuit the responsibility of the state to pave the way for overall progress. It is a political gimmick aimed at grabbing the leadership of a vote bank.



DO MERIT AND EFFICIENCY SUFFER?

MERIT is not determined by caste. There is a large chunk of meritorious backwards who cannot rise because of their socio-economic handicaps. The changing administrative structures in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka have shown that the governments can be run well despite more representation of the backwards. The upper castes dominate the bureaucracy today, but the system is still plagued with numerous evils. Apart from educational capabilities, the socio-political dominance of the upper castes is a powerful factor influencing the selection process. Social responsibility demands that jobs should be shared with the backwards despite a little dilution of the meritocracy.

THIS is a specious plea by the upper class backwards to increase their clout in the power dispensation which is put before the nation by those in favour of Mandal. If the backwards need more efficient administration, they should seek to remove overall apathy and corruption in the bureaucracy. But they only want a bigger share in the present corrupt system to corner some spoils. The results of the lowering of standards do not reach the poorest of the poor. In effect its impact could be: same levels of corruption with added inefficiency. It cannot be denied that lowering test scores for entrance examinations to engineering and medical colleges and reserving promotion quotas in government services according to caste will squeeze out the meritorious and demoralise these institutions. Says former director of Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, S.C. Dube: "In our concern for the less advantaged, let us not overlook the meritorious. Let us devise plans to nurture talent irrespective of its social origin."

IS IT THE ONLY WAY TO RIGHT THE WRONGS OF HISTORY?

GIVING backward castes advantages in return for centuries of oppression is a noble and just cause. Since the old Hindu order suppressed them on the basis of their genes, the present order has to make reparations. Competition is valid only among equals. Those treated as unequals in the past should be given a more-than-equal status to make them eligible for an equal competition. The wrongs of history have to be righted by turning their social handicap into economic privileges. Said V.P. Singh in Parliament: "Implementation of the Mandal Commission report is what little we can do to correct age-old imbalances."

THIS is a dangerous tribal logic where an entire generation's blood-feuds continue to the next. A modern democratic state recognises the necessity of preferential treatment to the disadvantaged. But if done on the basis of whole caste-groups, it will be holding responsible the present generation for the follies of its previous generation. Mandal revived this tribal mentality on a national level. Says Sudipta Kaviraj of JNU: "This logic makes a hash of the allocation of group responsibility. This cements the Hindu fundamentalists' argument that the mosque at the questionable Ram Janmabhoomi should be demolished because a Muslim emperor built it."

—PANKAJ PACHAURI

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

UTTAR PRADESH

New Tack

Terrorists target policemen

THERE is no containing the terrorists from Punjab who have gradually managed to convert the Terai region in northern Uttar Pradesh into a new base. Nearly two years after their movements came under the scrutiny of the state police, it seems that the terrorists have changed tack.

If the earlier terrorist attacks were mostly on prosperous Sikh farmers based in the Terai (INDIA TODAY, May 31), two daring attacks on September 4 in Shahjahanpur and Pilibhit districts show that their strategy now is to primarily target policemen and informers. In Shahjahanpur, the terrorists in an attack on a police informer Kashmira Singh, 80, injured him seriously, killed his son Surinder Singh, 45, and three other people, and injured 14 others who were travelling in the bus going from Puranpur in Pilibhit to Bilsenda via Bandda in Shahjahanpur.

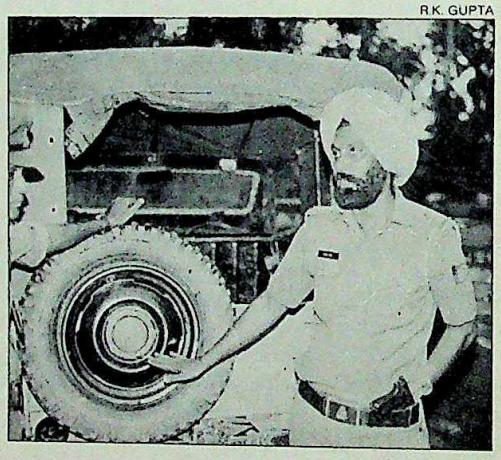
According to eyewitnesses, two Sikhs with sling bags got into the bus at Bandda. They pulled out their AK-47 rifles from their sling bags soon after the bus started moving, and emptied bullets into Kashmira and his son, who had also boarded the bus at Bandda. Said Netrapal, 30, a passenger in the bus: "It was over in less than a minute. All of us hid behind the seats."

The next shoot-out which occurred in Pilibhit district after three hours was also a fall-out of this incident. The SHO of Bilsenda, Bachan Singh, decided to alert Kashmira's relatives, Tota Singh and Vir Singh, living in a *jhala* (farm house) near Collectorganj village 3 km away from the Bilsenda police station. He took 10 constables armed with just 6 SKRs, three .303 mm rifles and one .12 bore gun. When the police team was just half a km away from Tota Singh's farm at around 10.30 p.m., it was ambushed. The exchange of fire continued till 1.30 a.m.

The SSP of Pilibhit, S.P. Srivastava rushed to the spot to rescue his colleagues but it took him more than an hour to find the spot where they were ambushed. Bachan Singh managed to escape but two of his constables were killed and four others seriously injured. The terrorists escaped with the police guns and walkie-talkie sets. Said Srivastava: "They first went after Kashmira, our informer, and then came after Bachan Singh. Their intentions are pretty clear now."

It should have been clear to the police much before the terrorists struck in such a calculated manner. For, over the last two years, the terrorists have killed 12 policemen in the region. Darshan Singh Ghora, a listed terrorist who was arrested in July in Punjab had ambushed one SI and two constables in Pallai in October 1988. A senior official revealed that he had written to the Government a dozen times. "But nobody seems to be bothered," he said.

R.K. GUPTA



Bachan Singh: prime target

The September 4 incidents have shocked Pilibhit. The roads are deserted after sunset. The fear among the people is palpable and even the police officers do not put on the pilot lights of their vehicles at night to avoid being targeted. Said Kalyani Go of Ghanshyampur village, near which the police party was ambushed: "None of us remain in our fields after 6 p.m. as the terrorists can come any time."

The terrorists have come and struck quite a few times but the ill-equipped police with their .303 rifles are waiting for the Government to help with equipment and money to mount an offensive. But there are no indications of any major operation being planned to save the beautiful Terai region from resounding forever with the rasping crackle of automatics.

—DILIP AWASTHI in Pilibhit

BABRI MASJID

Battle Stations

Yadav takes on BJP, VHP

THEY are all converging to Uttar Pradesh for what seems will be the great confrontation between the forces of communalism and secularism. And as D-Day approaches—October 31, when the VHP has vowed to start building its temple in Ayodhya—the phalanxes are getting arrayed on two sides of the political divide, gearing up for the tussle.

The Chief Minister, Mulayam Singh Yadav is the drum beater and flag bearer of the anti-VHP forces and has begun his campaign systematically and forcefully. He heads the Anti-Communalism Action Committee formed on August 10 which has the Janata Dal and the CPI and CPI(M) in the vanguard, with Kanshi Ram's Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) waiting in the wings to be roped in. Said Yadav before he kicked off a campaign, the fall-out of which could have a monumental impact on Indian politics: "We will prove that people are on our sides and not with the communal parties."

The anti-communalism committee planned a systematic campaign. It decided to have 47 public meetings all over the state which would begin on September 7 and culminate on October 12. The intention of course, is to garner grassroots support against the VHP's campaign so that the October 31 function is thwarted. But the impatient chief minister started off his fiery campaign prematurely on August 28 in Akbarpur and followed it up with a meeting in Sitapur on September 1.

The CPI members of the committee are not exactly thrilled at what they feel is Yadav's attempt to steal the secular thunder. Moreover, the posters announcing the anti-communalism meeting had big blow-ups of Yadav's picture only and ignored the other leaders. But despite a few leaders suggesting that the CPI pull out of the committee, the state executive committee of the party decided to support Yadav "for the time being" as his political stance suited the Left.

But for a couple of CPI and CPI(M) leaders, the dais of the two public meetings held so far has been occupied mostly by Yadav's trusted lieutenants. The Lok Dal (A) and the Jan Morcha factions of the Janata Dal have so far kept away from these meetings just as

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ions

VHP

g to Uttar
ns will be
n between
and secu-
roaches—
s vowed to
yodhya—
rrayed on
e, gearing

Mulayam
eater and
orces and
systemati-
s the Anti-
Committee
h has the
I(M) in the
Ram's
waiting in
aid Yadav
paign, the
a monu-
itics: "We
our sides
parties."
commit-
mpaign. It
eetings all
begin on
n October
to garner
the VHP's
r 31 func-
impatient
fiery cam-
ust 28 in
p with a
mber 1.
ommittee
what they
steal the
he posters
munalism
f Yadav's
the other
ders sug-
ut of the
tive com-
o support
," as his
eft.
nd CPI(M)
o public
occupied
utenants.
Morcha
ave so far
gs just as

BLUE CHIP.
Expensive looking, but highly affordable.

Don't pay in Dollars

BLUE CHIP
SHIRTS-TROUSERS

A quality product from
VIP

Go Newstracking in September

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Assam: ULFA's strangle-hold–Exclusive footage of training camps.

The Mandal Report: Violent reactions on both sides.

Laloo Prasad Yadav: Bihar's new watchdog.

Boy George/Asha Bhonsle: The two Karma Chameleons.

Newstrack capsule: The year's best.

SPECIAL SUBSCRIPTION OFFERS

FREE INDIA TODAY YEAR BOOK

Rs. 1380/- for an annual subscription to ***NEWSTRACK*** i.e. 12 cassettes and a free ***INDIA TODAY YEAR BOOK 1991*** worth Rs. 275/-. This offer is valid upto Dec. 31, 1990. Year Books will be delivered at your given address by the year end or early January 1991.

SINGLE CASSETTE OFFER

Rs. 145/- for a single cassette of the current issue.

DISCOUNTED BACK-ISSUES

Rs. 135/- for each back issue of ***NEWSTRACK***. Please give details of which volumes you wish to order.

Please draw your remittance in favour of Living Media India Ltd. by cheque/DD and mail alongwith your name and address to LIVING MEDIA INDIA LTD., P.O. BOX 29, NEW DELHI-110 001.
Cheques/Demand Drafts payable at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras must be MICR only.

In case the subscription coupon below has already been used by someone else, please write to us at the address given above enclosing the required amount and details of the issues you want/the month you desire your subscription to commence from. Please allow 2-3 weeks for us to process and action your subscription.

Cassettes will be home delivered by Courier or Registered Post.

cut here

Yes, I want to subscribe to ***NEWSTRACK***. Enclosed is my subscription remittance by cheque/DD No. _____ dated _____ for

- ☐ Rs. 145/- for a single copy of the September issue.
- ☐ Rs. 135/- each for the back issues of the month of _____
- ☐ Rs. 1380/- for an annual subscription to ***NEWSTRACK*** commencing from the month of _____ and my free ***INDIA TODAY YEAR BOOK 1991***.

Please deliver my cassette to

Name _____

Address _____

_____

Pin Code _____ Tel No. _____

This coupon can also be used for subscription renewal. Please indicate your subscription no. _____

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

THE WHY AND HOW OF INDIA'S NUCLEAR POWER PROGRAMME.

Forty-two years ago.in 1948, the nation gave a mandate to the Atomic Energy Commission to develop, control and use atomic energy for the welfare of the people of India. By producing and supplying electricity without radiation hazards to the public or plant personnel. And also to ensure the safe disposal of radioactive wastes.

The Department of Atomic Energy was established in 1954 to implement this mandate. Backed by premier institutions such as Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) for research and development; Atomic Minerals Division (AMD) for prospecting nuclear energy sources; Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL) for processing uranium ore; Nuclear Fuel Complex (NFC) for fabricating reactor fuel; Indian Rare Earths Limited (IREL) for processing thorium and zirconium; Electronic Corporation of India (ECIL) for instrumentation and control systems; Heavy Water Division (HWD) for production of heavy water; Waste Management Division (WMD) for treatment of radioactive waste; Power Reactor Fuel Reprocessing Division (PREFRE) for reprocessing the spent fuel. All partners in perseverance. And, through the innovative efforts of NPC engineers, Indian consulting, manufacturing and civil construction firms,to progressively master the design and manufacture every major component indigenously.

PHWR type — the mainstay of the Indian Nuclear Programme.

From the several reactor types available, India has selected Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs) because of several inherent advantages. PHWR uses natural uranium as fuel with heavy water as moderator and coolant. Natural uranium being easily available in India, helps cut heavy investments, otherwise required for enriched uranium; import of which is not possible due to restrictive international trade practices. Besides, heavy water as a moderator scores over graphite in reactor safety.

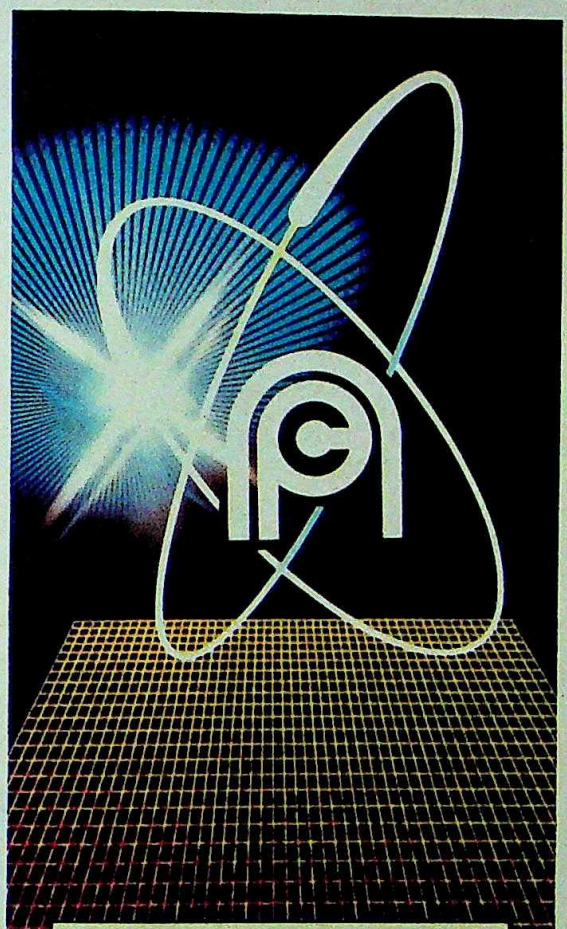
What's more, PHWR core containing natural uranium is safer with its lesser reactivity and has on-power, refuelling facility. Avoiding long and costly refuelling shutdown. Also, due to its excellent neutron economy, PHWR has a greater yield of plutonium.

Indian scenario — a three stage programme.

India has planned a three stage programme to benefit from the atom. ***In the present first stage,*** PHWRs use natural uranium fuel to produce electricity and plutonium fuel with 96% unused uranium (U238). The use of Fast Breeder Reactors ***in the second stage,*** with plutonium as fuel will generate electricity and more plutonium from U238, kept as a blanket. It will also produce uranium 233 fuel from thorium, used as blanket material. ***In the third stage,*** U233 will be used as fuel and thorium as blanket, producing more U233 fuel than the fuel consumed in fast and thermal reactors. Helping us to make full use of our abundant thorium deposits ***to produce electricity for centuries to come.***

Inspite of the all-India nuclear contribution being a mere 2.6%, at State level as in Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu, it has been as high as 40%. That's why, although in the final analysis, nuclear power will contribute to just 10% of the total electrical capacity by 2000 A.D., its development is worth pursuing. As, in the long run, it will be a source to reckon with, especially in a scenario where conventional sources like coal and oil are known to decline at a faster rate. Besides, nuclear power is economical. A unit of electricity from the nuclear power stations at Tarapur, Rawatbhata and Kalpakkam costs ***40 to 56 paise per KWh compared with 60 to 90 paise per KWh*** from thermal stations in the respective regions.

Our 70 reactor-years experience has helped us considerably in improving the design of each successive power station, from Rajasthan to Madras to Narora. The Narora plant is the fore-runner of the standardized design, for all up-coming projects. Greatly reducing unit gestation period to about eight years.



INDIA'S NUCLEAR POWER PROGRAMME UPTO 2000 A.D.

	Station Capacity MWe	Cumu-lative MWe	Year of Commissioning (In service)
OPERATIONAL UNITS			
TARAPUR - (BWR) - 1&2	2 × 210	420	1969
RAJASTHAN - 1&2	2 × 220	860	1973, 1981
MADRAS - 1&2	2 × 235	1330	1983, 1985
NARORA - 1	1 × 235	1565	1990
UNDER CONSTRUCTION			
NARORA - 2	1 × 235	1800	1991
KAKRAPAR - 1&2	2 × 235	2270	1991, 1992
KAIGA - 1&2	2 × 235	2740	1995, 1996
RAJASTHAN - 3&4	2 × 235	3210	1995, 1996
UNDER SANCTION			
KAIGA - 3,4,5&6	4 × 235	4150	1996-1997
TARAPUR - 3&4	2 × 500	5150	1997-1998
RAJASTHAN - 5,6,7&8	4 × 500	7150	1998-2000
PLANNED			
KUDANKULAM - (PWR) - 1&2	2 × 1000	9150	1998-1999
NEW PROJECTS	6 × 500	12150	1998-2000

NPC. Taking the nation progressively forward.

To achieve a better standard of living today and to conserve our dwindling energy reserves for future generations, we would need an optimal mix of thermal, hydel and nuclear sources for fuelling India's growth needs. That's why NPC has just one major overriding goal. To harness the power of the atom. To help India achieve self-sufficiency in power generation for generations to come.

NPC. Fuelling a powerful future.

Want to know more about nuclear power? Send your queries to:

NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)

Centre No. 1, 16th & 20th Floor,
World Trade Centre, Cuffe Parade,
Bombay-400 005.

Issued for public information by the Directorate of Environment and Public Awareness — Nuclear Power Corporation.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

CONTOUR-NPC-144C/90

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

La Opala redefines the art of gracious dining

Unique pearly-white translucence that won't yellow or stain.

Delicate florals in a wide choice of colours and styles.

Superior quality opal glass prevents crazing and chipping.

LA OPALA

OVEN-PROOF OPAL GLASSWARE

Tell crockery times have changed

The La Opala range is available in sets and single pieces. For more information, contact: La Opala Glass Pvt Ltd, 10th Floor Chitrakoot, 230A AJC Bose Road, Calcutta 700 020; Phone 440414

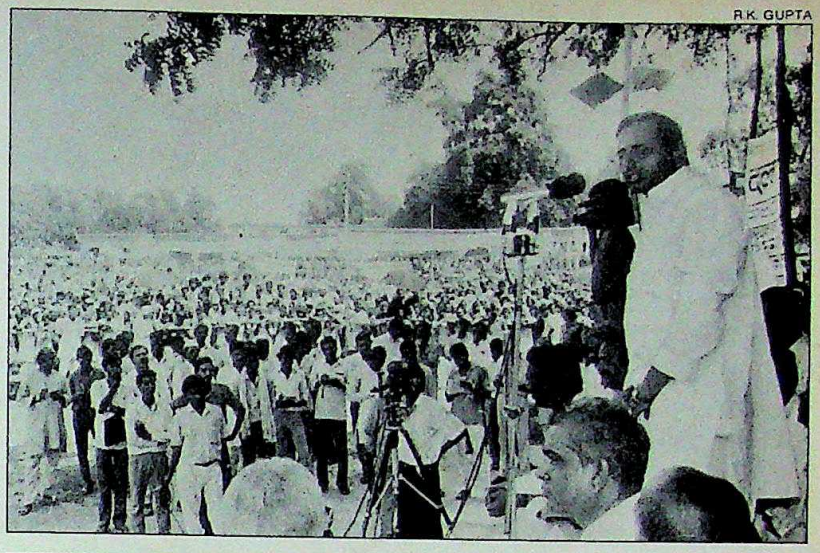
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

has the BSP. Says a senior leader of the Lok Dal (A) faction: "These shows are all an image-building exercise for Mulayam Singh. As such not many of us are interested."

The nit-picking about the modalities of the meetings and the elbowing for leadership is understandable considering the political ramifications. The anti-communal committee is the nucleus of the possible political alliance of the future—part of the Janata Dal excluding the Jan Morcha and the Lok Dal(A) factions, the Left parties and the BSP.

On the face of it such an alliance could draw a winning chunk of the backward and Muslim votes. And considering the fact that the BJP in the state has been distanced from the Government, the anti-communal campaign will also give Yadav a chance to test out the muddled political waters. And for someone like Yadav who took the bold step of arresting the Sankaracharya a few months ago, what better chance to project his secular, socialist credentials and in the process enhance his political standing. His recent visit to the southern states with his message of popularising Indian languages at the cost of English can be seen only as his way of trying out his long-term political plans.

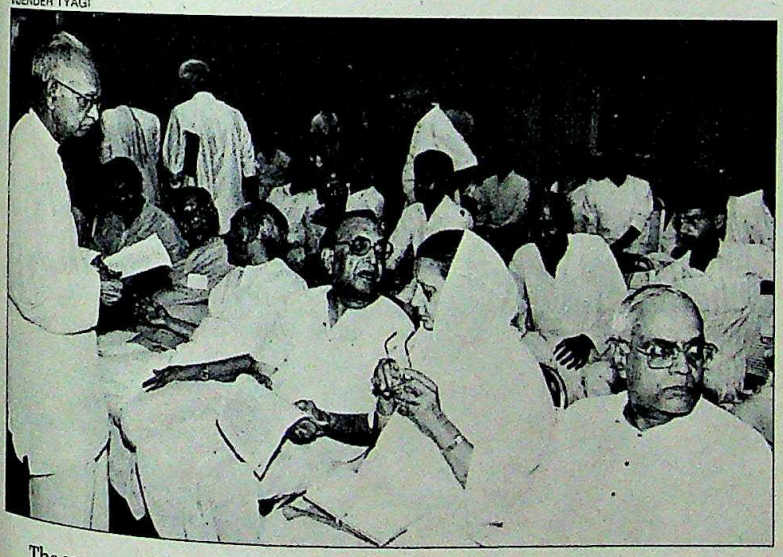
R.K. GUPTA



Yadav at the Sitapur rally: secular tack

Chief Minister Mulayam Singh Yadav launched a frontal attack on the BJP-VHP combine.

VIENDER TYAGI



The VHP meeting in Haridwar

The chief minister spewed venom on the BJP and the VHP at these meetings cutting whatever little links the state unit of the Janata Dal still maintained with the BJP. At the Akbarpur meeting which was a huge success—the Sitapur meet wasn't as much of a crowd-puller—he threw a challenge at the BJP which he said wanted to get him out of office by October 20. In Sitapur, the socialist appealed to the religious instincts of the people: "The so-called Hindu nationalists are a group of unscrupulous people who drink liquor, eat meat and indulge in all kinds of sins. Who can be a bigger Hindu than me? I don't drink liquor or eat meat. It is because of people like these that today Muslims are forced to keep arms in their houses."

The BJP is not just sitting back and listening. Its state leaders Rajendra Gupta and Kalyan Singh reiterated the party's resolve to stand firmly behind the VHP on the Ayodhya issue and announced that the party would hold public meetings in all the 63 districts in the state by October 15. "We know one thing for certain. The temple will be built from October 31 onwards, whether this government stays or goes," said Kalyan Singh.

To counter Yadav's rhetoric, BJP stalwarts Atal Behari Vajpayee and L.K. Advani will be addressing meetings in Lucknow, Meerut, Agra and Bareilly. The BJP's obvious intention is to prevent the Yadav campaign from turning into a juggernaut which could choke the roaring cries of Hindu chauvinism which they hope will reach a crescendo by next month. If, against odds, Yadav succeeds in building up public opinion in the state against the VHP-BJP plan and turns October 31 into a damp squib, then the juggernaut could sweep through the Hindi heartland and expose the real BJP.

The VHP too has begun to whip up support in its effort to stymie Yadav's challenge. Betraying a sense of panic, the VHP launched its *Ram jyoti yatras* from Ayodhya from September 1 amid chanting of mantras—18 days ahead of schedule. The *jyotis* have been sent to Varanasi, Mathura, Allahabad, Lucknow and Gorakhpur from where they will be taken to different parts of the country.

The fury of the battle for Ayodhya is bound to rewrite political equations in the country especially with the BJP getting increasingly distanced from the Janata Dal not only in Uttar Pradesh but at the Centre too. And it could make or finish Mulayam Singh Yadav.

—DILIP AWASTHI

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

 Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

MADHYA PRADESH

Brewing Stir

Liquor policy raises storm

TROUBLE is brewing in the tribal belt of Madhya Pradesh. The BJP-run state Government's new liquor policy, which involves handing over of government liquor shops to private contractors in tribal areas, has set the cauldron boiling.

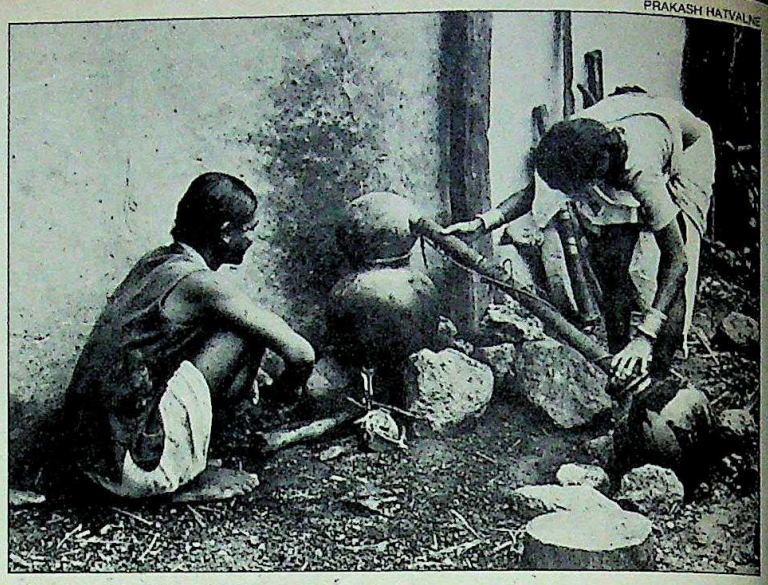
Ever since the new policy was implemented two months ago, reports of harassment of tribals—who constitute one-fourth of the state's population—at the hands of the contractors have been pouring in. "It has generated tension," says Sudeep Banerjee, commissioner of Bastar, the largest tribal district in the state.

To add to the Government's woes, the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes B.D. Sharma has described the new policy as "a violation of the constitutional safeguards given to the tribals and neglect by the state Government of its obligations". In a three-page letter to Chief Minister Sunderlal Patwa, Sharma asked the Government to repeal the new policy. Handing over liquor trade to private contractors, he said, was against the accepted excise policy in the tribal belt.

In tribal society, no social, religious or cultural function is complete without liquor. "Liquor is offered to the gods and taken as medicine," says Bhanupratap Singh, a former tribal MLA. The tribals, living mostly in forest areas, had always distilled their liquor till the British colonial rulers banned brewing and forced them to buy from private contractors. This policy was reviewed in 1975, when the Union Government decided to close all liquor shops in the tribal belt and allow adivasis to brew alcohol for their own consumption. Contractors were to be firmly kept out of the scheme of things though it was decided to open government shops for non-tribals living in those areas. Madhya Pradesh implemented this policy in 1981.

What is now causing consternation among champions of the tribal cause like Sharma is the state Government's attempt to entirely reverse the excise policy with the ostensible aim of "curbing alcoholism".

PRAKASH HATVALNE



Tribals brewing their liquor

By giving contractors a foothold in tribal areas, the Government has exposed the locals to harassment.

Handing over the 268 government liquor shops in tribal areas to private contractors was the first step. Simultaneously—in contradiction of its avowed objective of curbing drunkenness—it allowed 53 new shops to open in the tribal belt. The auction of these shops fetched the Government Rs 9 crore. Eventually, the Government plans to altogether ban tribals from brewing liquor for their own consumption. In a letter to the state excise commissioner, the state Commercial Tax Secretary Pradeep Baijal wrote: "The Government desires to review the policy of exemption given to tribals to brew their own liquor." Interestingly, this letter was written a week after the state Government received Sharma's hard-hitting missive.

By giving contractors a foothold in tribal areas, the Government has already exposed the locals to harassment. The aggressive attitude of the contractors, whose musclemen raid villages accompanied by the excise and police staff—and come down heavily on tribals for even borderline violations of the rule that a family cannot stock more than five litres of brew—has led to several clashes in Surguja, Raigarh and Bastar districts.

Having invested substantial sums in the liquor shops, the contractors are now anxious to increase sales—which can only happen if the tribals stop brewing and start buying. Says Dinesh Jaiswal, a liquor contractor of Raigarh: "We shall force the excise and the police to stop illegal distillation and also check it by our own methods. We have to realise the money we have invested by hook or by crook."

Data collected by the Tribal Research Institute reveals that during British rule, high prices of liquor charged by contractors—there is no control over prices in their shops—had led to the tribals' impoverishment. A survey conducted last summer revealed that three-fourths of the adivasis feel that their economic condition has improved since brewing was allowed nine years ago as home-distilling cuts down the cost of liquor by nearly 75 per cent. And if tribals are now forced to buy liquor from shops they may have to spend four times as much.

Like the British before them, the compulsions behind the BJP Government's liquor policy are also financial, believe some observers. Most government liquor shops in tribal areas were running at a loss. By handing over the trade to contractors the Government has added Rs 9 crore to its coffers. And if home brewing is stopped, much more money would pour in. Says Sharma: "Although various arguments are extended against the facility (home brewing), the real reason is the Government's concern over loss of revenue."

A case of the rulers filling their coffers at the cost of the people?

—N.K. SINGH in Raigarh and Raipur

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

uor

—which
als stop
s Dinesh
Raigarh:
and the
tion and
nods. We
we have
.."
ribal Re-
t during
f liquor
ere is no
ps—had
ment. A
mer re-
of the
ic condi-
ving was
e-distill-
quor by
ibals are
m shops
times as

em, the
Govern-
nancial,
govern-
eas were
over the
ernment
rs. And if
ch more
Sharma:
s are ex-
ne brew-
Govern-
venue."
ng their
ple?
nd Raipur

No ban, no challenge... just a burning desire.

ONIDA. Neighbour's envy. Owner's pride.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

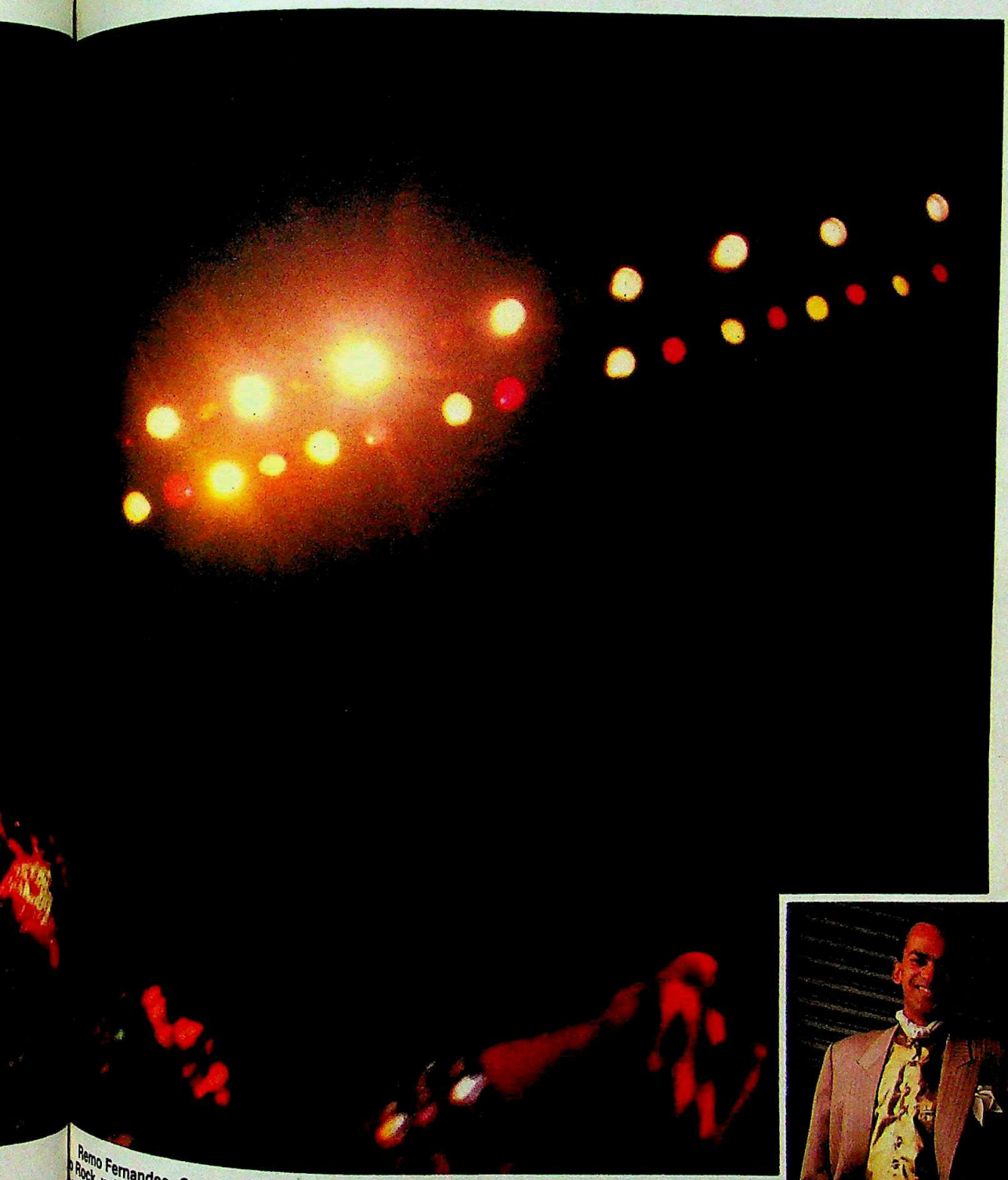
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

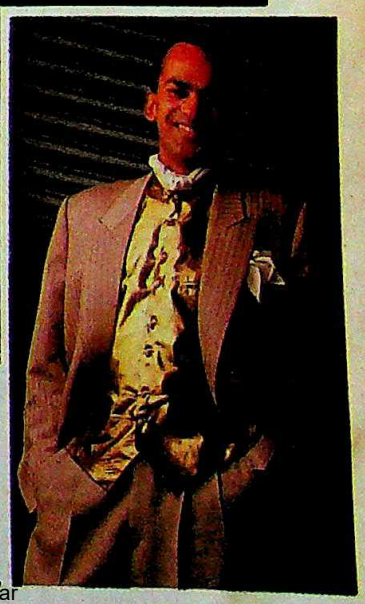
You don't have to be India's greatest rock star to be a Raymond's man.

Remo Fernan
Rock, writes
omposes the m
ngs and perfo
em from Dres
When he's n
udiences into

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri





Remo Fernandes, Goa's gift to Rock, writes his own lyrics, composes the music, plays, sings and performs, wowing them from Dresden to Tokyo. When he's not sending audiences into orbit, you may, on occasion, find him making the scene in a sparkling polyester/wool/silk combination aptly named "Silverene".

You don't have to be India's first rock personality to be a Raymond's man. For that matter, you don't even have to be a Raymond's man.

... but it helps.

Raymond's

Never say no to life.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Some possessions define a character.
Some distinguish it.

Chancellor
Exclusive Filters

A cigarette so distinguished,
it's by appointment to your majesty.

STATUTORY WARNING: CIGARETTE SMOKING IS INJURIOUS TO HEALTH

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

MADHYA PRADESH

Patching Up

Singh, Scindia end feud

IN politics marriages of convenience are routine. Even so, the new-found affection between the two Congress(I) stalwarts of Madhya Pradesh, Arjun Singh and Madhavrao Scindia, has rocked most people back on their heels. As MPCC(I) Vice-President Hazarilal Raghuvanshi says: "It's like the friendship between Afzal Khan and Shivaji."

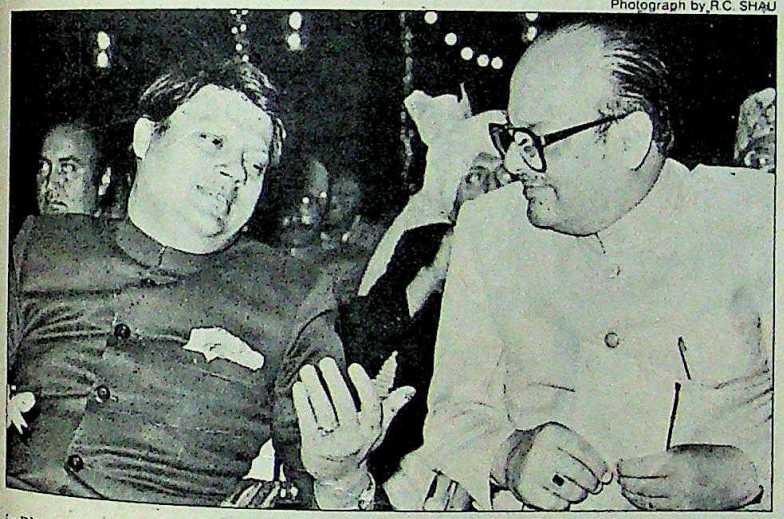
The peace parleys began in May and last month the two buried the hatchet and jointly toured Mau town in Bhind district—together for the first time in five years. And last fortnight, Singh undertook a whirlwind tour of Gwalior region in Scindia's absence. Earlier a foray by Singh into Scindia-land would have been construed as an act of aggression. Now Singh could casually say: "I had already talked to Scindia about it."

After the Mau visit, Singh and Scindia had declared that there had been some 'misunderstanding' in the past which had now been cleared up. Said Singh: "We have a common goal and we must remain united." Though Singh meant the two together 'fight BJP misrule' in the state, wags say their real common aim is to save each other's skin, as both face the BJP's wrath. Singh is facing a judicial inquiry in the Churhat lottery scandal, while Scindia apprehends arrest in various family property disputes at the behest of S.C. Angre, the companion of his estranged mother, Vijaya Raje Scindia, a BJP power-centre.

While the new equation will help Singh strengthen his position within the party and give Scindia the necessary fillip to face the BJP onslaught, it will undermine the two other group leaders—S.C. Shukla and Motilal Vora—in Congress(I) factional politics. For till recently, Singh, the state's most wily politician, was the common enemy of Scindia, Vora and Shukla.

Clearly, above all, the new equations will work to Singh's advantage. And he needs the respite, because things have been going badly for him. Two recent incidents illustrate this. Last fortnight Singh, who is MPCC(I) chief, had to bow to pressure and revoke the suspension of Aslam Sher Khan, former MP and Olympian, from the Congress(I). Khan was suspended in August for openly hurling abuses at Singh during a party rally.

Photograph by R.C. SHAU



Scindia and Singh: burying the hatchet

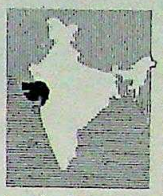
The second incident was the appointment of Rasool Ahmed Siddiqui, a former minister and critic of Singh, as MPCC(I) general secretary. Siddiqui was denied a ticket in the last assembly polls on trumped up charges. His come-back is seen as a set-back for the Singh group. Says Siddiqui: "Groupism and neglect of loyal workers like me have landed the party in the present mess."

And the mess and the infighting persist, despite cosmetic exercises like the friendship between Singh and Scindia. Yet the Congress(I) is no longer as demoralised as it was after the March assembly poll debacle. Says Vora: "We shall come back." That, when it happens, should signal a fresh forging of equations. —N.K. SINGH

GUJARAT

Broken Peace

Violent clashes mar festival



NOT long ago the Ganesh Chaturthi festival was seen as an occasion for the display of Hindu-Muslim friendship. But of late, it has left in its wake a trail of destruction, ripping apart the tapestry of communal harmony.

As in Madras, the procession on Ganapati Visarjan (idol immersion) day sparked off riots in Vadodra and Anand causing 11 deaths. It was the second such conflagration this year in Gujarat, the earlier one in April having caused 70 deaths.

It was all too obvious that no lessons had been learnt from the April incidents. Chief Minister Chimanbhai Patel blamed the police for not heeding intelligence advice, but according to the Vadodra Police Commissioner C.P. Singh, there was no specific warning.

In Vadodra the riots broke out even as the acting Mayor, Mohammed Vora, was standing near the Mandvi tower to greet the procession as a symbol of communal harmony. Some in the 50,000-strong procession started shouting anti-Muslim slogans which sparked off stone-pelting. Immediately, out came the knives and fire torches and as many as 80 shops were burnt. Seven people died in the police firing and more than 50 were injured.

In Anand, the procession was stoned while it was passing through the Muslim area of Juna Dadar. In retaliation, about 50 shops were set on fire. The police prevented riots in Bardoli and Ankleswar, while in Surat, a brawl resulted in one death.

The resurgence of communal violence has caused considerable friction in the Janata Dal-BJP coalition Government though Patel succeeded in restraining the BJP from issuing provocative statements. There were allegations that the BJP Health Minister Nalin Bhatt had engineered the riots. But the chief minister gave him a clean chit.

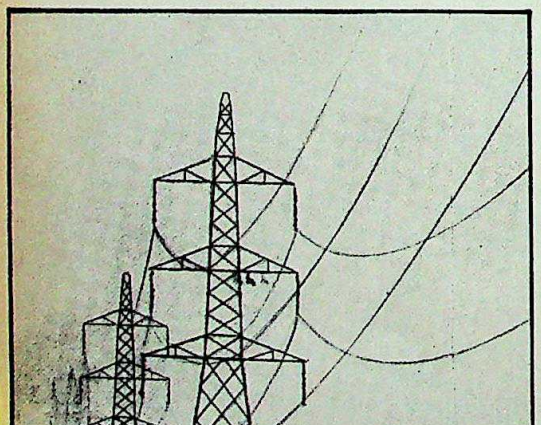
The way things are going in Gujarat, there is no doubt that like the Congress(I) before them, the Janata Dal and the BJP too have no clue as to how to contain the communal monster unleashed in the early '80s by political machinations.

—UDAY MAHURKAR

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

While the Wind Blows. Your prosperity increases. Use Wind Energy for Power Generation



NEPC in collaboration with world leader MICON in wind Turbine technology can manufacture, instal and commission 250 Kw Wind Turbines. Wind Energy utilisation is the only proven technology among renewable energy sources.

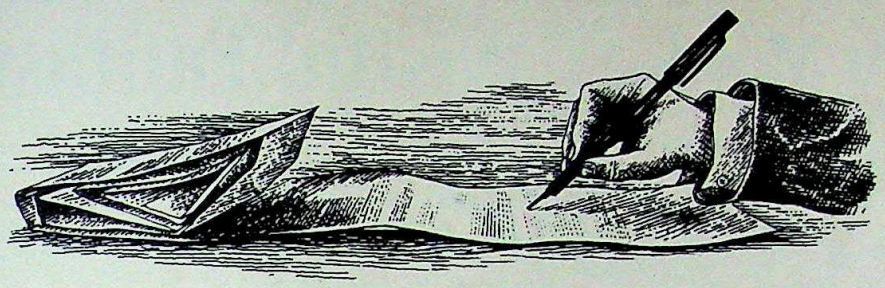
- Inexhaustible power Force-Air!
- Continuous Electricity, round the year through grid.
- Tax benefit; 100% depreciation in the first year itself.
- Turbines now available : 50 watts to 250 Kw.
- We also manufacture various models for pumping underground water even from 300 feet depth.
- **Reap a fortune using the Wind Energy.**

NEPC

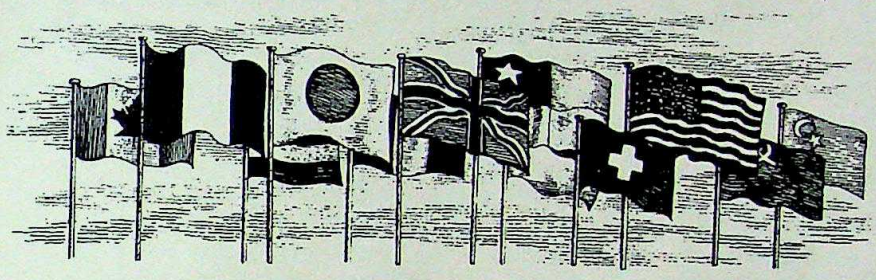
NATURAL ENERGY PROCESSING COMPANY

(A Unit of SRC Group)
No. 3, Goomes Street, MADRAS-600 001. INDIA. Telephone: 587403/586114
Telex: 41-7607 Telefax: 586112 Telegrams: 'WINDMILL'

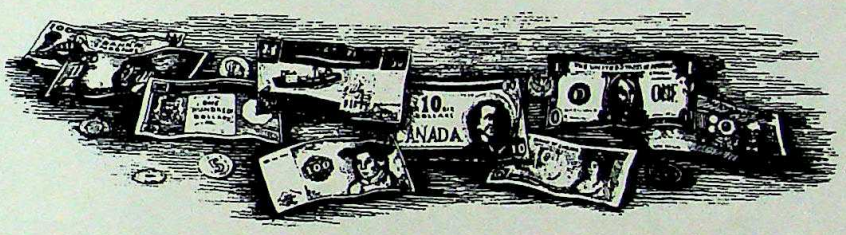
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



A MINIMUM OF PAPERWORK.



EXPERT KNOWLEDGE OF WORLDWIDE CUSTOMS REQUIREMENTS.



ONE ALL-INCLUSIVE PRICE.

IMMEDIATE DESPATCH OF YOUR SHIPMENT.

CAN YOU EXPECT THE SAME DOOR-TO-DOOR SERVICE FROM YOUR FREIGHT FORWARDER?

RAKA:3150:B:90

When shipping around the world, most freight forwarding companies depend on outside agents to handle your packages. At DHL, however, we offer you one door-to-door service, one all-inclusive invoice, and one truly global network. You can depend on the dedication of over 20,000 professionals, spanning more than 180 countries, and supported by over 7,000 vehicles and aircraft. So why not call us if you need an immediate pick-up today?

We are listed in the Yellow Pages/Telephone Directories.

DHL WORLDWIDE EXPRESS®

DHL. THE COURIER DIVISION OF AIRFREIGHT LIMITED.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

TAMIL NADU

Violent Mood

Communal tension mounts

WHEN it comes to communal conflagrations, the stray chappal can be as lethal as the Molotov cocktail. This was in tragic evidence last fortnight at Triplicane, in the heart of Madras, when the police had to open fire on a Vinayaga (Ganesh) Chaturthi procession, killing two people and injuring several others.

The procession while crossing a mosque in Triplicane—an area populated by both Hindus and Muslims and known to be communally peaceful—turned violent when someone reportedly flung a chappal from inside the mosque. A free-for-all ensued, as soda and acid bottles, stones, and tyre torches were wildly wielded turning the peaceful processionists into bloodthirsty vandals.

The trouble apparently started when the procession—to immerse the idol in the sea at the end of the 10-day festival—was stopped midway by the police as prayers were being offered at a couple of mosques en route. Most processionists feel had they carried on without waiting for police clearance, there would have been no problem. Muslims say things began to heat up when the processionists started to burst crackers and beat drums outside the mosque. Then ostensibly someone flung a chappal from inside the mosque. Hindus also charge that the Muslims raised pro-Pakistan slogans.

Even as Hindu and Muslim leaders trade charges, for the people of Madras, the incident has come as a confirmation of the growing intolerance between the two communities. This year incidents of Hindu-Muslim clashes have recorded an all-time high in the state. Starting off with rioting in Coimbatore in March, the state has witnessed communal violence in Ambur, Dindugul and most recently in Nagore, where property worth Rs 2 crore was destroyed. In all these instances police had to open fire killing several people.

Worse, the law-enforcing agencies are still not geared up to handle the situation. But as the communal atmosphere in the state vitiates, they will not be able to afford such tardiness for long. —ANAND VISWANATHAN

Wistful Fantasies

INSIDE EYE BY INDERJIT BADHWAR

MY bonnie lies over the ocean/My bonnie lies over the sea/...Bring back, bring back/O bring back my bonnie to me.

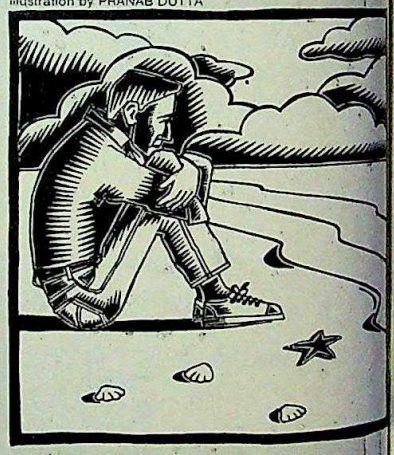
This refrain from the old English folk-song characterises the sudden yearning, with which so many of my countrymen have been afflicted, for the golden age of Rajiv Gandhi.

Some of the same people who but 10 months ago danced with joy on the former prime minister's political grave, now want him exhumed and revivified. They see buried qualities in him: not the evil that men do, but the good, as Mark Antony pointed out to his fellow Romans, that is oft interred with their bones.

These are honourable men and women. Their judgement is not fled to brutish beasts but is tempered with the experience of the present. Prime Minister V.P. Singh's honeymoon with the public was probably the shortest-lived of any recent prime minister.

Skyrocketing prices. Bafflegab and doublethink on J&K and Punjab. Economic and industrial policies that remain cloaked in ambiguities. Courting the BJP while also appeasing Muslim fundamentalists. Sacking governors and then politicising new gubernatorial appointments with a high-handedness reminiscent of the Congress years. Doordarshan even more slavishly the electronic handmaiden of the party in power. An embarrassing delay in producing the swift results Singh promised on Bofors. Ministries barely functioning while the Janata Dal wrestles with itself in a bedlam of confusion. Casteist policies masquerading as progressive reform.

Illustration by PRANAB DUTTA



Rajiv was a man you could love to hate. He had that insufferable insouciance about him. But he was, nonetheless, a stationary target whenever he goofed. Singh is slippery. There's something about him that keeps you from trusting him. But the backlash from this—the neo-Rajivophilia— is also the product of a convenient amnesia.

Bring back Rajiv? The man who gave us the anti-defamation bill? Who refused to come clean with the nation on the Bofors scandal? The man who used the Punjab accord as a political plaything? Whose parliamentarians, despite their brute majority, behaved like goons and made Shankar Dayal Sharma weep? Whose government made a shameful retreat from secularism by passing the Muslim Women's Bill and then igniting the Babri Masjid controversy?

No, his born-again fans now chorus, bring back the *new* Rajiv. But does such a creature exist? He's adopted a more open style perhaps. But on basic issues like Punjab, Kashmir, industrial policy, his party and its spokesmen mouth inanities not even worthy of being dignified for discussion. And they waffle shamelessly on the reservations controversy. And the *new* Rajiv still remains manacled to some of the unsavoury stalwarts of the old Congress culture—Dhawan, Chidambaram, Bhagat, Jakhar, Azad.

Then why not just bring back the old V.P. Singh? Not the compromising manipulator who is prime minister but the idealistic, lonely crusader acting out his conscience. The man who once inspired thousands to march with him to the beat of his own distant drummer. But maybe that V.P. Singh never existed, and we just conjured him up.

The English folk-song ends: *Last night as I slept on my pillow, I dreamed that my bonnie was dead.*

You can't bring bonnie back. Bonnie's dead. And that's no dream.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

BPL · SANYO

Unmatched Picture Quality

BPL-SANYO 5000 Series VCRs & VCP

Instant Start

VHR 5300

VHR 5100

VHP 5000

Sleek Video Systems with the latest international features. Built to last in Indian conditions. Brought to you by the people who have indigenously manufactured, sold and serviced close to **one lakh VCRs** in the country.

Call on the nearest BPL-SANYO dealer for a demonstration today.

BPL

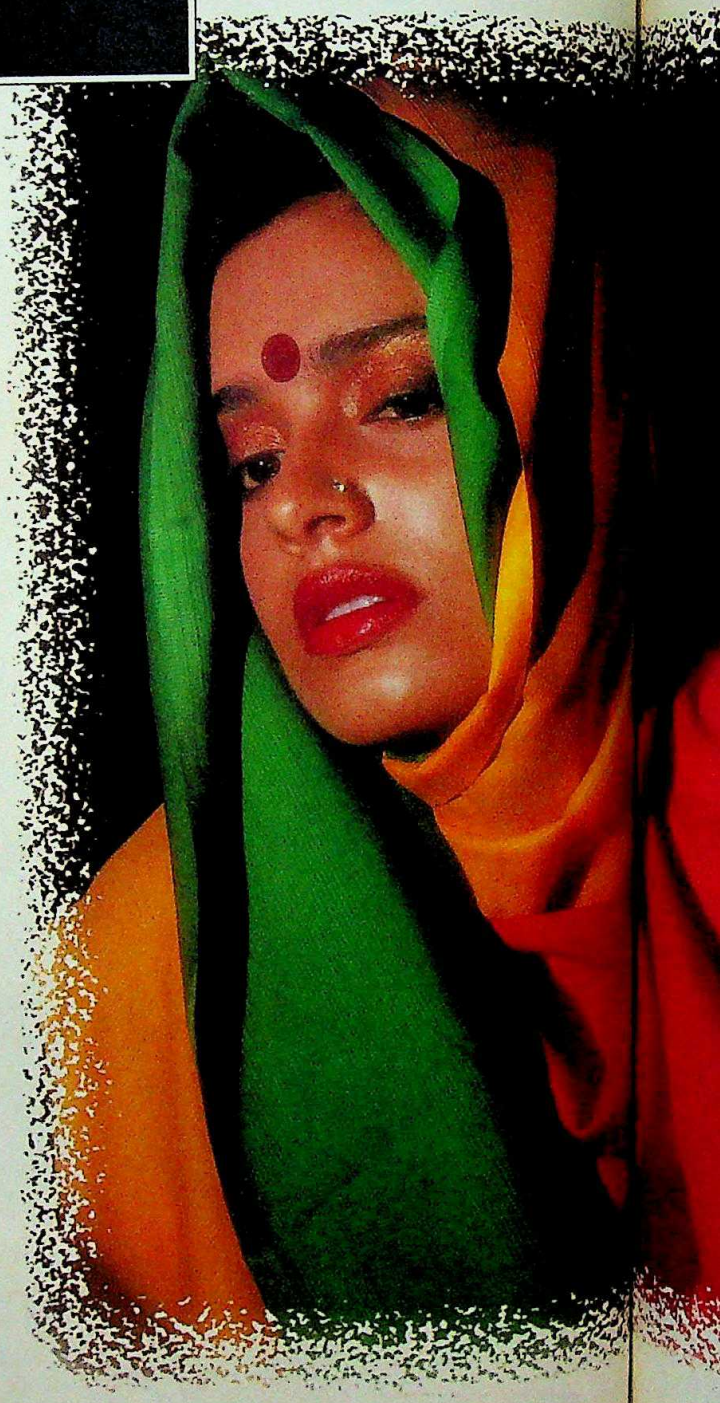
IN PURSUIT OF PERFECTION

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

By helping give textiles a brighter, finer finish, we've put 'made in India' on the world's shopping list.

Till recently, our ladies yearned for foreign fabrics. And spent small fortunes to sport that 'phoren' look. Today, you'll find the 'Made in India' label flaunted with pride, world-wide. What helps give textiles this class appeal is a range of import substitute chemicals made by SM Dyechem. **Critical involvement, core contributions.** We're intimately involved with several core industries offering new generation inputs, import-substitute chemicals... helping in their export drive. We've tied up with 4 of Europe's technology leaders. Acquired know-how that compresses gestation periods. Turned start-up projects into profit-centres in record time. In the process, we've doubled our profits each and every year. And become one of the most sought after scrips in the stock market. **A chain reaction of successes.** Achievement breeds its own ambition. From our pinnacle in the speciality chemicals market, we're taking off in diverse directions. Our vision of the near future encompasses projects to manufacture Methanol, Pig Iron, Carbon Black and a world-class Beer. **On the anvil is an agro-based Petrochemicals project. To each of these projects we'll bring our unique touch of Value Multiplication. Spread the benefits... and share the rewards.**



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

High-value addition for high profitability.

High-tech inputs for high-growth areas.

- Textiles
- Man-made Fibres,
- Leather
- Animal Health Care,
- Detergents and Toiletries,
- Pharmaceuticals
- Processed Foods
- Pesticides
- Fertilisers
- Oilfield chemicals

SM

SM DYECHEM

SUCCESS THROUGH VALUE MULTIPLICATION

SM Dyechem Ltd. SM House, 11, Sahakar Road, Vile Parle (E), Bombay 400 057.

Adfactors/SMDL/221

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

FROM DELHI AND CALCUTTA, THE AIRLINE OF TOMORROW FLIES YOU TO THE WORLD

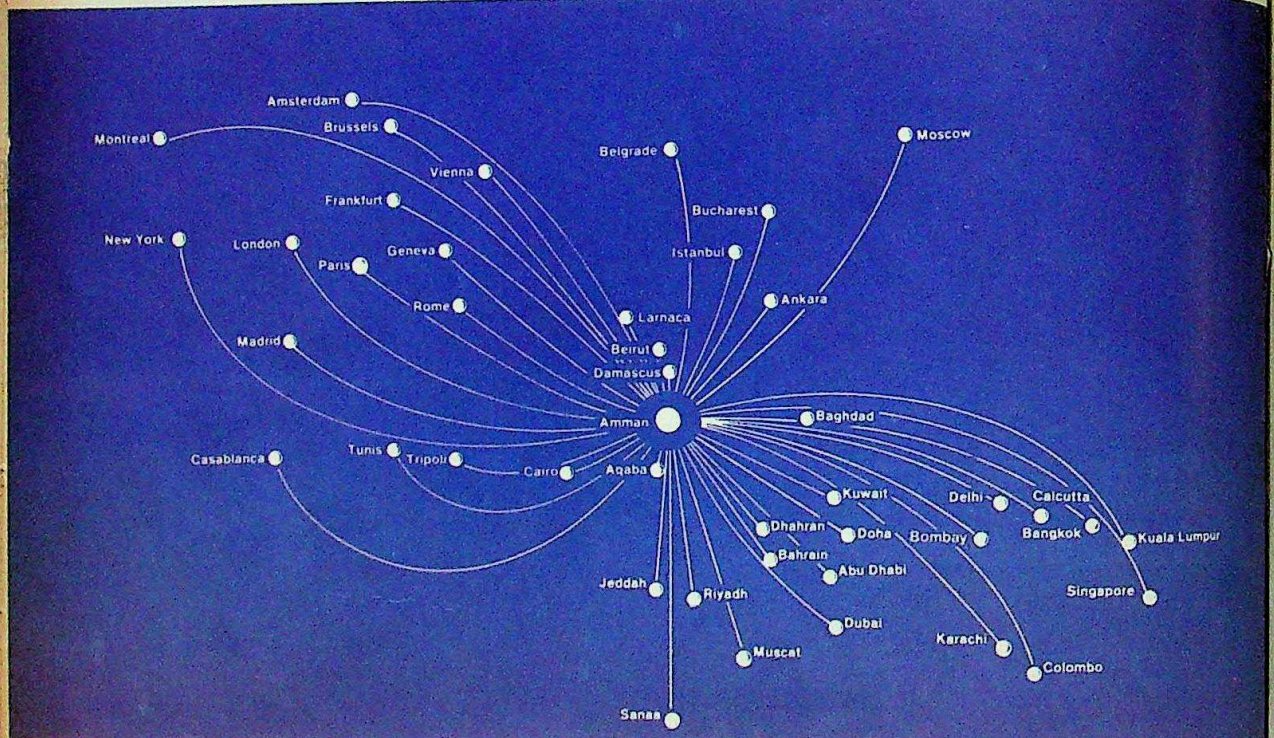
Royal Jordanian Airline flies you direct from Delhi and Calcutta to Amman, the gateway of the Middle East. Onward destinations to European capitals, Montreal and New York are scheduled for your convenience and comfort.

Discover the world from Amman, the home of Royal Jordanian. Fly on board the aircraft of tomorrow, the Airbus A310 and enjoy a traditional Jordanian welcome.

On your way to discovering the world, discover what a difference enjoyable travel on Royal Jordanian can be.

ROYAL JORDANIAN الملكية الأردنية

For more information and reservations, please call your travel agency or Royal Jordanian at : Calcutta 484261 or Delhi 3319890.



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ANDHRA PRADESH

Statue Saga

Serious lapses unearthed

RETIRED Andhra Pradesh High Court judge P.A. Choudary is a passionate Buddha admirer. His son Gautam is named after the Enlightened One. His daughter is named Sujata, after the woman from whom the Buddha received his last meal before attaining nirvana. And his house is called Lumbini, after the park through which the Buddha's mother is said to have passed during her pregnancy. But those excellent credentials haven't helped Choudary make much headway in his inquiry into the sinking of the massive Buddha statue in Hyderabad's Hussainsagar Lake in March this year.

In the six months since the inquiry commission was appointed, it has received little assistance from those involved in the incident. Assam Bengal Carriers Ltd (ABC), responsible for transporting the statue to a pedestal in the centre of the lake, has even suggested that the inquiry be put off. Says Executive Director R.P. Shah: "It is difficult to explain the reason for the accident unless the barge used to ferry the statue is pulled out from the lake."

Last fortnight, Choudary gave the green signal to salvage the barge. But even without that, documents obtained by INDIA TODAY reveal serious inadequacies in the barge design. The barge was made of 16 separate but identical pontoons, boat-like structures that could be filled with water or emptied to lower or raise its height as the statue was moved on to it from the shore. It was designed to carry a total load of 720 tonnes. But ABC discovered after the barge was built that the total weight to be ferried was 793 tonnes.

ABC's technical adviser, the Bombay-based Material Handling and Transporting Consultants (MHTC), asked ABC to add two more pontoons to provide for the increased weight. It also suggested that electric pumps be used instead of diesel pumps to pump out water at a steady rate. Both suggestions were ignored.

ABC also disregarded MHTC's suggestion to hire A. Kapur, a naval architect from Bombay with experience in making similar barges to ferry large payloads. Instead, it hired a Goa architect, Arun S. Bondale. Significantly, Bondale has not responded to the commission's summons.

The Government, on its part, is trying to evade responsibility by arguing that ABC was given a turnkey job, an argument many find specious. The Government, they say, needs to explain why it did not properly check ABC's credentials before giving it the job.

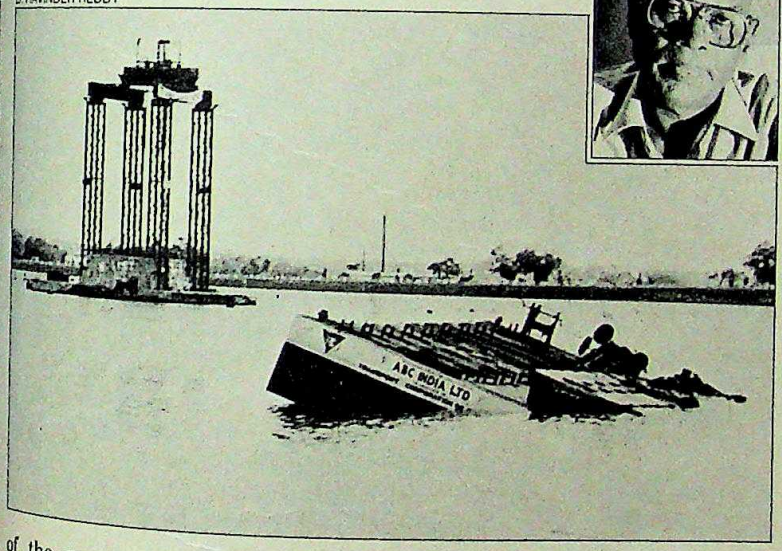
Meanwhile, even if the barge is retrieved, the statue of the Buddha looks likely to spend Hyderabad's 400th anniversary year at the bottom of Hussainsagar Lake, an inglorious reminder of the follies of men. The Buddha might have approved.

—AMARNATH K. MENON

A. PRABHAKAR RAO

Barge about to sink; (inset) Choudary

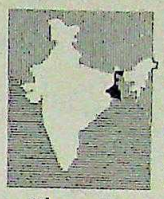
D. RAVINDER REDDY



WEST BENGAL

Crying Wolf

CPI(M) targets Margis



WHAT are the communists in West Bengal most afraid of? The unlikely answer could be the Anand Marg, going by the state Government's paranoid reactions towards the controversial sect. The Left Front Government is convinced the Marg has a hit list, foremost on which is Chief Minister Jyoti Basu and his family. So, two IPS officers accompanied Basu on his recent tour of Europe and his son has been provided with a police escort. And last fortnight the Government came out with a white paper on the Marg.

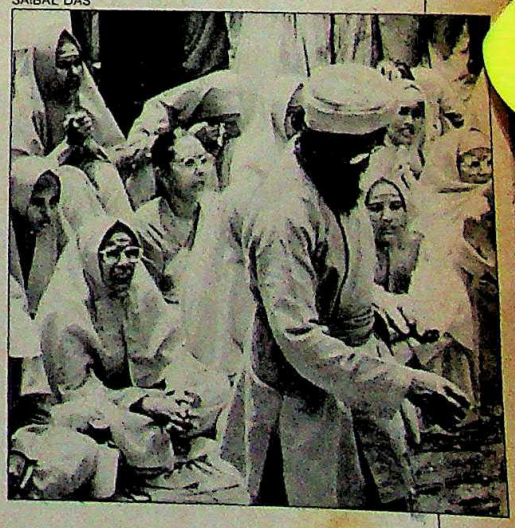
It turned out to be a damp squib, revealing little about the allegations of the Marg's involvement in the assassination of former Union railway minister L.N. Mishra and the bomb blast at Canberra during Morarji Desai's visit as prime minister. It failed to mention a single instance of a CPI(M) worker being killed by Margis. It cited 20 cases of bomb explosions in the state during the '80s and said that Margis were suspected to be behind them.

Crucially, what is unexplained is why the Margis should attempt to kill CPI(M) leaders. Says a bureaucrat: "If there is even a rumour that Margis have made an attempt on Basu, it would spark off a reprisal that would finish the Marg."

The Margis have an explanation, though. Says Mantresharananda, the

Margis at a funeral: evoking fear

SAIBAL DAS



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Marg's official spokesman: "The campaign against us is a pre-murder strategy." A Forward Bloc leader feels the Marg is a threat because in Purulia it seems to be doing more at the grassroots level than the Government. But he adds: "They are flush with foreign funds and have encouraged political adventurism by groups like Aamra Bangali (We are Bengalis)."

Even more embarrassing for the Left Front has been the support drummed up by the Marg from former communist bastions in Eastern Europe. Wrote the Czech President Vaclav Havel: "Please take my words as an expression of my respect, support and solidarity with the difficult and noble work that you have begun in West Bengal." Solidarity leader Lech Walesa wrote to the Indian prime minister: "I hope that the violation of democratic laws and principles in West Bengal will cease." And last fortnight the Anand Marg founder, P.O.R. Sarkar alias Anandamurti, received an invitation for a human rights conference in Leningrad in September.

The Marg's spectacular growth arouses suspicion. Though its following is limited to Bihar and West Bengal, its association with Aamra Bangali, a radical group claiming to represent the interests of Bengali-speaking people, is seen as an expression of the Marg's covert political ambitions.

Despite the fear that the dagger-wielding Margis arouse, there is no conclusive evidence against them explaining why the state Government has not sought a ban on the Marg. Meanwhile, the war of attrition between the two continues.

—UTTAM SENGUPTA

BOTTOMLINE BY D. BUNKER

Act of Autonomy

THE passage of the Prasar Bharati Bill sparked off scenes of great jubilation in Mandi House. With the sword of Tipu Sultan no longer hanging over their heads, it was a virtual Khula Manch. News-readers were tripping over their Ps and Qs; producers were dancing to a different tune; make-up assistants forgot all about Salma Sultan's dimples and even the compere of Krishi Darshan sprouted a smile. But is autonomy really on the cue cards? Or will it still be auto-suggestion? Here's a sample of the 9.30 English News.

Mynew Salwar: Good news, here is the evening...I beg your pardon. Good evening. Here is the news. First the headlines. The Government, in a far-reaching decision, has granted Doordarshan autonomy. The Doordarshan Employees Union has hailed the decision. All India Radio's OBC correspondent Lulu Prasar Yadav has the report.....

(Visual showing starving refugees at the Jordanian border.)

Aswewere Singh: Ahem. As we were saying, the country has hailed the decision to grant autonomy to Doordarshan. A Doordarshan spokesman told PTI that the decision was an act of great courage and statesmanship on the part of Mr P. Upendra, the minister for information and broadcasting. According to PTI, Mr Upendra described the decision as his gift to the nation.

Mynew Salwar: *(shown hastily accepting a slip of paper)* We have just received a flash. In an exclusive interview to Doordarshan, Mr Upendra stated that the decision to grant autonomy to Doordarshan was an act of courage and statesmanship by Prime Minister V.P. Singh.

(Visual shows Devi Lal calling V.P. Singh 'pineless'.)

Aswewere Singh: Sorry, that was the wrong visual. As we were saying, all political parties have hailed the move to grant autonomy to Doordarshan. According to All India Radio, opposition leader Rajiv Gandhi said that if the new proposal gave Doordarshan the same level of autonomy and freedom the Congress(I) government had when he was prime minister, he would welcome the move, despite his reservations.

Cartoon by AJIT NINAN

Mynew Salwar: And now, the news from abroad. Another batch of refugees returning from Iraq and Kuwait who landed at Bombay airport today have also hailed the decision. *(Visual shows a returnee saying: "I would like to thank the Government of India for the magnificent job they have done. I know what it is like to be without automoney.")*

Aswewere Singh: Meanwhile, the Bombay Film Producers Association today held a massive pro-autonomy rally at Shivaji Park. Addressing the rally, Mr Ramanand Sagar and Mr B.R. Chopra urged all employees of the film industry to take to the streets and give a fighting reply to those who opposed autonomy in Doordarshan. Mr Sanjay Khan, who also addressed the crowd, said that *Ramayan*, *Mahabharat* and *Tipu Sultan* had given jobs to thousands of extras. More autonomy meant more jobs, he added.

Mynew Salwar: And now, the sports news. The Indian team for the Beijing Asiad has welcomed the move to give autonomy to Doordarshan. Speaking to Doordarshan on the eve of their departure, the team spokeswoman praised Mr Upendra, the prime minister and the National Front Government for the bold strides they had taken, despite many hurdles.

Aswewere Singh: Not everyone has welcomed the move. The Independent Producers Association said in a press release that the autonomy move was a sham and....

(Screen replaced with sign that says: 'Sorry for the interruption.')

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

American Express,
club class and jet lag.
Model No. 62-9011
Rs. 648.34*

Drucker & Murphy's
Law over burgers and colas.
Model No. 62-8341
Rs. 606.24*

Conferences,
collaborations and
boardroom battles.
Model No. 62-9021
Rs. 602.03*

Presentations,
PCs and endless cups
of black coffee.
Model No. 62-8581
Rs. 667.28*

Bulls,
bears and blue chips.
Model No. 62-8631
Rs. 602.03*

Bifora brings out the best in you

BIFORA
QUARTZ

It's a watch to excel in. Bifora Quartz. Born of excellence. And an impeccable German lineage. With a hardy quartz movement that is a guarantee of perfection. And plating that will flawlessly outlast the years. Sold and serviced throughout the country. Bifora Quartz is from the people who pioneered quartz technology.

Bifora Quartz, with a 2-year confident guarantee.

Your time in your style.

Drafts, project reports
blunt pencils and razor minds.
Model No. 63-8591
Rs. 717.80*

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

*Recommended retail price. Local taxes extra.

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

The Contessa Classic. Usually found part the

Contract HM 22166R

Accessories shown in the picture are not part of standard equipment.

A Limousine to every other car

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

l par t the final milestone on the road to success.

Measuring a man's success has always been difficult. And while most successful people have grabbed wildly at every passing status symbol, a few have resisted the temptation.

The Contessa Classic is their car. And makes a more forceful statement about them, than any of their other possessions.

A fuel efficient 1.8 litre Isuzu engine displays their ability to use power.

Five forward gears, including an overdrive, indicate just how fast they can move.

An impressively responsive steering places them in complete control of any situation.

Power disc brakes help them respond to any possible contingency—safely and smoothly.

And, of course, a plush interior, an independent suspension, and air conditioning show an appreciation of the finer things in life.

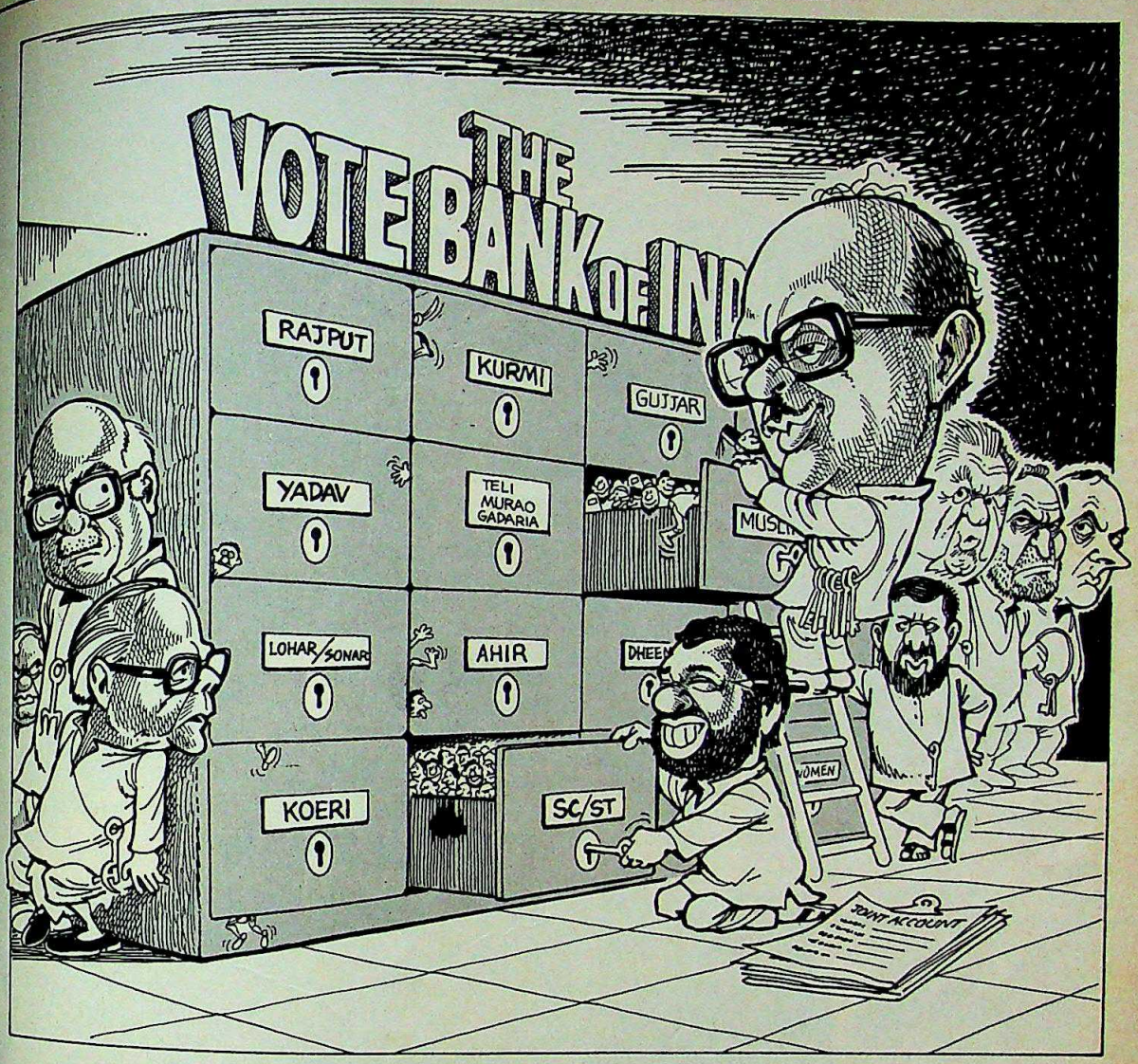
But there's really much more to the Contessa. So why not get in touch with us. And take a closer look at a car that spells success quite differently.

Contessa
Classic 1·8 GL

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Public Domain. Sur... Collection, Hetauda

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



SIGN POSTS

SACKED: Harsh Vardhan, 34, the managing director of Vayudoot, ostensibly for not attending the Parliamentary Consultative Committee meetings. His meteoric rise from obscurity had made him many enemies but his political connections ensured his survival. Till now, that is.

IN SUSPENDED ANIMATION: Times Review of Books which was to have been the intellectual showpiece of the Times Of India group. It was being midwifed by Editor Dileep Padgaonkar himself. Soon after being launched, it was scrapped apparently because Samir Jain found it too cerebral.

RESUMED: Operations of Airbus A 320s by Indian Airlines to ferry Indians trapped in the Persian Gulf. The fleet had been grounded following the Bangalore crash in February this year.

SUSPENDED: Publication of *India Week*, a news-weekly launched by the *Business India* group 16 months ago.

CELEBRATED: Mother Teresa's 80th birthday on August 27. Pope John Paul II sent birthday wishes and a special blessing while in Calcutta, the Sisters of Charity celebrated in their own special way.

CRITICALLY ILL: Kamlapati Tripathi, 86. The octogenarian Congress leader has been ailing for some time. He was hospitalised in New Delhi last fortnight after he suffered a paralytic stroke. Doctors attending on him describe his condition as serious.

PUBLISHED: *Ek Hi Rakta*, a novel by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi in a Hindi translation. This is ironic considering the DMK leader's anti-Hindi stance. The novel, however, has contemporary relevance; it is about upper caste atrocities in a south Indian village.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

KARNATAKA

Testing Time

● FOR a man with part of his lungs already removed, he was remarkably calm when Bangalore doctors suspected he may have developed lung cancer again. Instead, former President N. Sanjeeva Reddy, 78, made a quiet and unpublicised visit to Bombay's Tata Hospital where he underwent a battery of elaborate tests. Fortunately, at the end of it all, doctors pronounced him healthy.

Reddy: out of danger

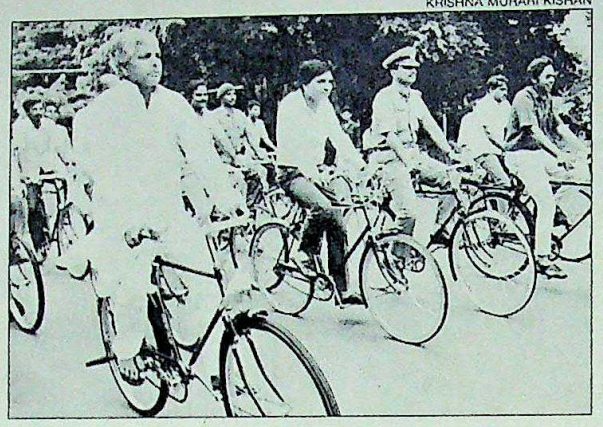
Earlier in 1977, Reddy had one-third of his left lung removed in the US when it was detected to be cancerous. That was when he was in office. But the problem recurred later when he was out of office. So, in 1988 Reddy went to the US again for treatment. This time doctors had scooped out part of his right lung. In fact, they had even inserted radium needles into the lung to prevent any recurrence of cancer.

Although the treatment may have taken a toll on the former President's physical strength, he remains alert mentally. He lives a normal life, eats normal food and spends his time walking on the small lawns of his Bangalore house where he lives with his wife and one of his 13 grandchildren. Moreover, he appears most satisfied and relaxed. Says he: "I do not want to do anything. I just want to rest and see my grandchildren."

BIHAR

Pedal Power

KRISHNA MURARI KISHAN



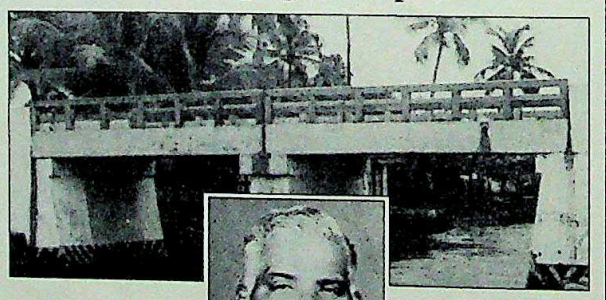
Yadav: conservation cycle

● ADMINISTERING a problem-ridden state like Bihar is at the best of times a bumpy ride. And Chief Minister Laloo Prasad Yadav is making it bumpier than usual for himself. Literally so, as he last fortnight attempted to deal with the oil crunch in a unique way.

Yadav hopped on to a bicycle and pedalled his way to the state secretariat. Said he: "Through the bicycle I can reach the poor and the poor can reach me." He even cycled to receive Union Home Minister Mufti Mohammed Sayeed. He has also banned the use of official cars on Monday. Meanwhile, bicycle dealers are using Yadav-on-a-bike to promote their product.

KERALA

Bridging the Gap



Viruthiyil: motivating force

● FOR the residents of Kerala's Neendoor Kuruppumthara village, the gap between the Government's plans and their actual implementation remains to be bridged. In 1957 the Government approved their application to build a bridge and allocated Rs 2 lakh for it. But over the years the project gathered dust and its cost escalated to Rs 36 lakh.

Then the villagers rallied around Father Thomas Viruthiyil, 59, to mobilise funds and hands to make the bridge themselves. Realising that they could make do with merely 6 m of the bridge, they brought down the cost to Rs 2 lakh. The project was finally completed last fortnight. Says Father Viruthiyil: "The people's movement established that the villagers don't have to rely on the Government."

MANIPUR

Petty Politics

● LAST fortnight when former home minister Tompok Singh urinated on the chair of the Speaker of the Manipur Assembly, Borbabu Singh, he may have lost his place in the Assembly, but he has certainly earned himself a niche in the state's legislative history.

Not that the errant act was committed in full legislative view. In the absence of eyewitnesses, the Speaker had to rely on tell-tale evidence to take action. On the basis of the Assembly secretary's formal report to the House, he suspended Tompok Singh from the House for four years for having committed a breach of privilege—Tompok Singh's denials notwithstanding. In fact, he even brushed aside suggestions to refer the case to the privileges committee.

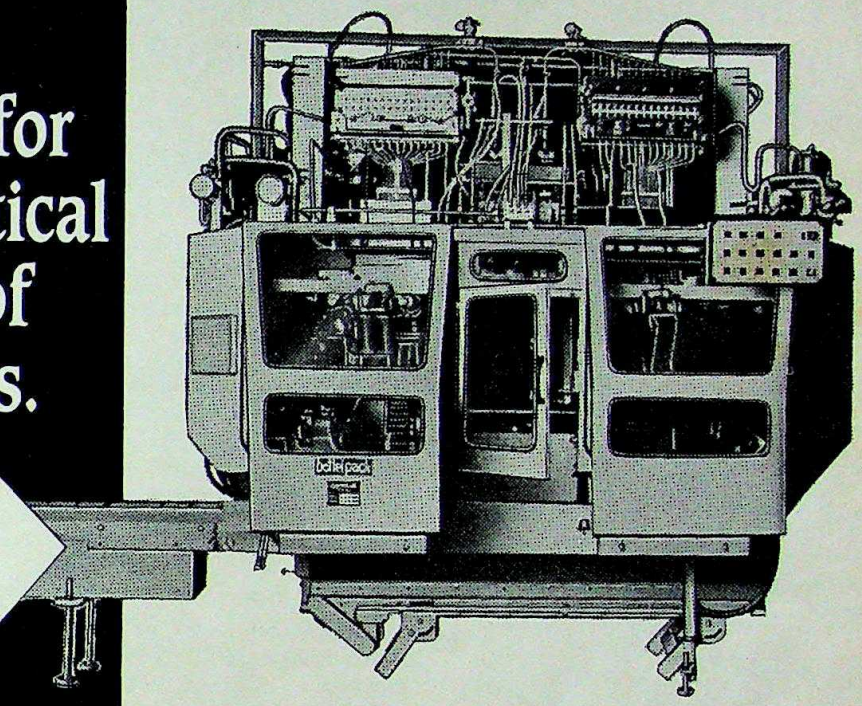
Singh: irreverent behaviour

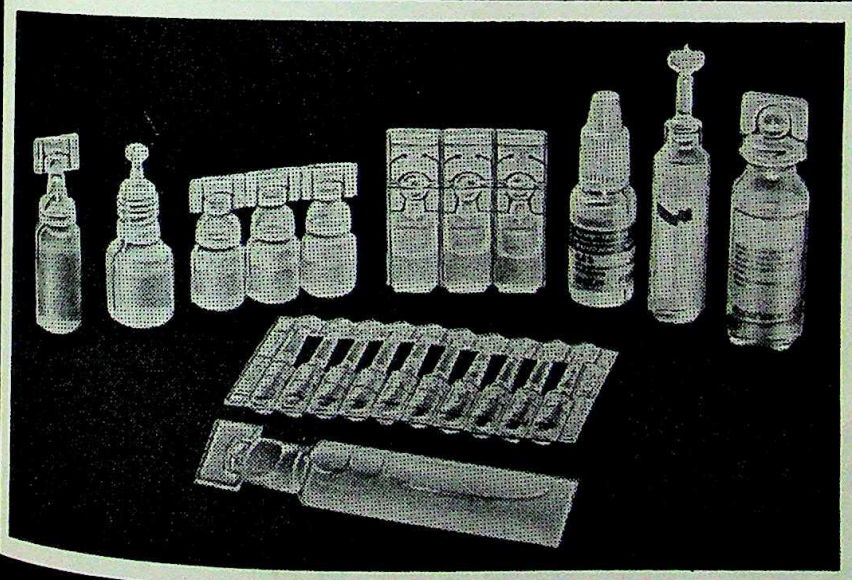
Apparently, Tompok Singh was prompted to resort to such irreverent behaviour after the Speaker refused to recognise his party—the Manipur Congress—which was formed when in July 14 of the 26 legislators led by him walked out of the Congress(I). The Speaker refused to recognise this splinter group on the ground that seven of the members, including Tompok Singh, had been expelled from the Congress(I) and were therefore deemed independent members. Thereupon Singh unleashed his wrath.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

rya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

The better alternative for pharmaceutical packaging of small liquids.





These bottles and ampoules are the product of the world's best ASEPTIC FORM FILL and SEAL machines - the

rommelag

BOTTELPACK machines. So far, ROMMELAG machines have been used in India primarily for large volume products such as INTRAVENOUS SOLUTIONS. But the ROMMELAG system is as well suited for small volume liquid products such as eye-drops, ear-drops, small volume injectible solutions and other liquid medication.

ROMMELAG Machines and Polyethylene are on OGL and import duty is 40% for both.

A seminar on this will be held in Bombay on 28th October. Participation is by invitation only. If you would like to participate, please write to the Sole agents for ROMMELAG in India:

Sobhagya/SI/6930

SALESWORTH INDIA PVT. LTD.
GUPTA TOWERS, III FLOOR, 50/1, RESIDENCY ROAD,
BANGALORE-560 025, Phone: (0812) 576792
Telex: 0845-2980 ROUR IN, Fax: (0812) 216165

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Webel Telematik

Revolutionary, not evolutionary... an invitation to feel the power of the sensational new T1200 electronic teleprinter

Webel Telematik brings you the new T1200. The world's most complete electronic teleprinter.

From the inventors of the teleprinter—Siemens AG, West Germany. The company whose technology backs every third teleprinter in the world.

This same exceptional quality is reflected in every aspect of the new T1200. Brought to you by Webel Telematik, a high-tech arm of the West Bengal Electronics Industry Development Corporation (Webel) and Siemens in India.

Faster, clearer business communication

Incoming messages are received while outgoing texts are being prepared. On-screen edit helps to correct errors promptly. Entire messages can be duplicated. Special layouts and tabulations are made ready. All in a jiffy.

Can cut your telex bills by half

The T1200 can call your business partner, transmit your messages, and then clear the line immediately. Automatically. Even at night. At half rate.

Magic ?
No, just the incomparable T1200. Wholly dedicated to all your telex needs, 24 hours a day. To give you substantial cost reductions in machine time, operator time and overtime expenses.

Your worldwide connection

As you install the T1200, you automatically get enrolled in the Worldwide Telex Directory—listing 1.8 million subscribers, of which about 40,000 are in India.

Little wonder that the T1200 is already finding important buyers.

After conforming to the most stringent approvals procedure, the T1200 has been selected to perform in key areas. Bulk orders have been received to supply the teleprinter for the Department of Telecommunication (DoT), the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. (MTNL) and the Indian Army. The T1200 has also bagged a large export order.

More features. More benefits.

- Built-in doctor for instant fault detection.
- Modular construction makes servicing quick and easy.
- Unique confidential telex facility.
- Amazingly low fault rate.
- Back-up battery keeps inherent memory fully active. Even during a power failure.
- Advanced 16 bit microprocessor brain and infinite memory with micro-disc.
- Low installation costs : no need for airconditioner or voltage stabiliser.
- Quiet as a whisper. No vibration. Ideal for your secretary's desk.

Webel Telematik adapts high-tech from **Siemens**

To know more about the amazing new T1200 electronic teleprinter, mail the coupon today. And get to see the full picture of the T1200. The cost effective solution to meet your communication needs.

Please send me more details of this incredible teleprinter. The new Webel Telematik T1200.

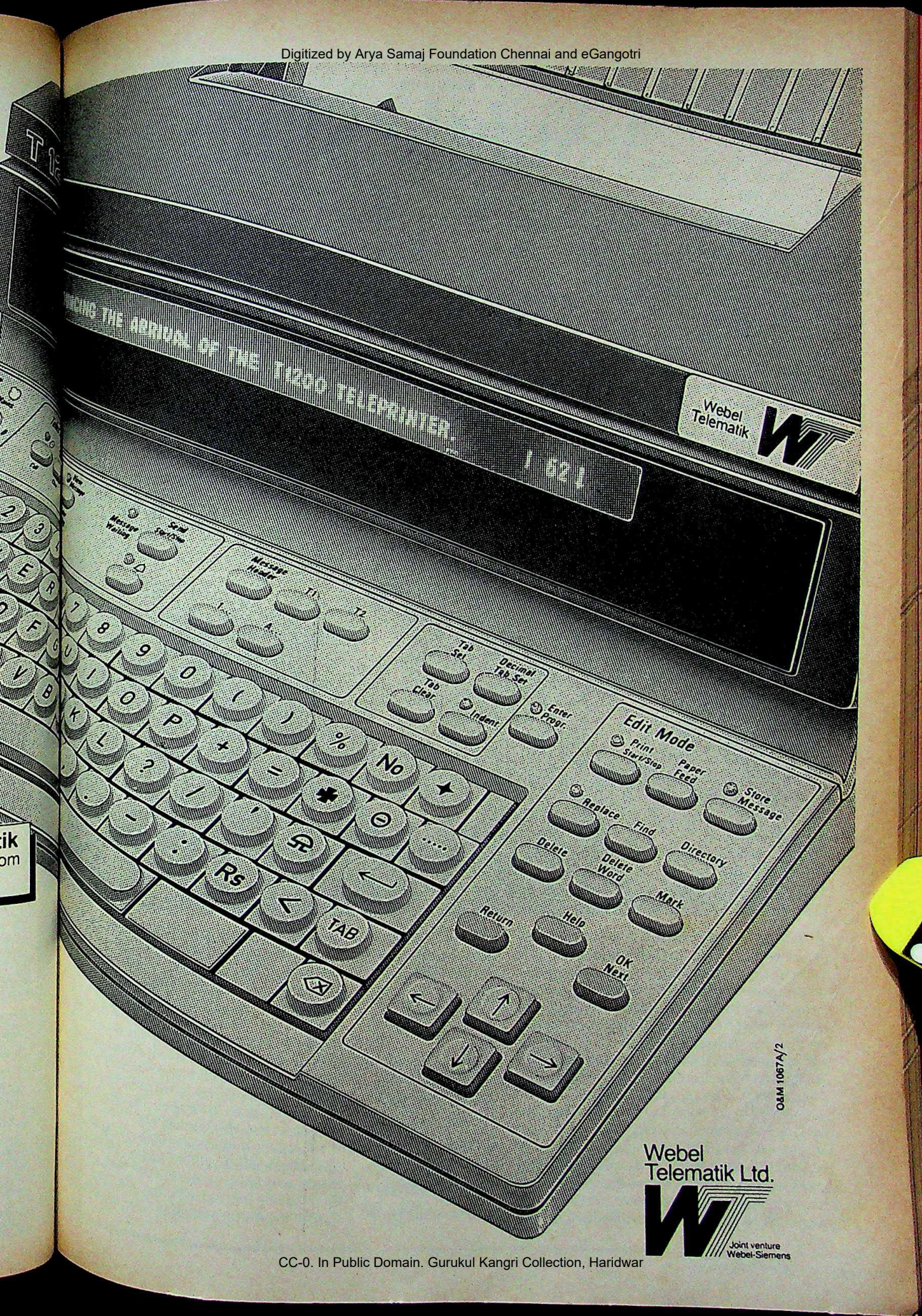
Name .....
Designation .....
Company .....
Address .....
Phone .....

Webel Telematik Ltd.
AG Towers, 2nd floor
125/1 Park Street Calcutta-700 017
Tel: 299438/299405 Telex: 021 4760
Gram: TELEMATIK

IT/1

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

KASHMIR

A Subtle Shift

The gradually changing situation on the ground is a reflection of the contrasting style of functioning of the two governors, Jagmohan and Girish Saxena.

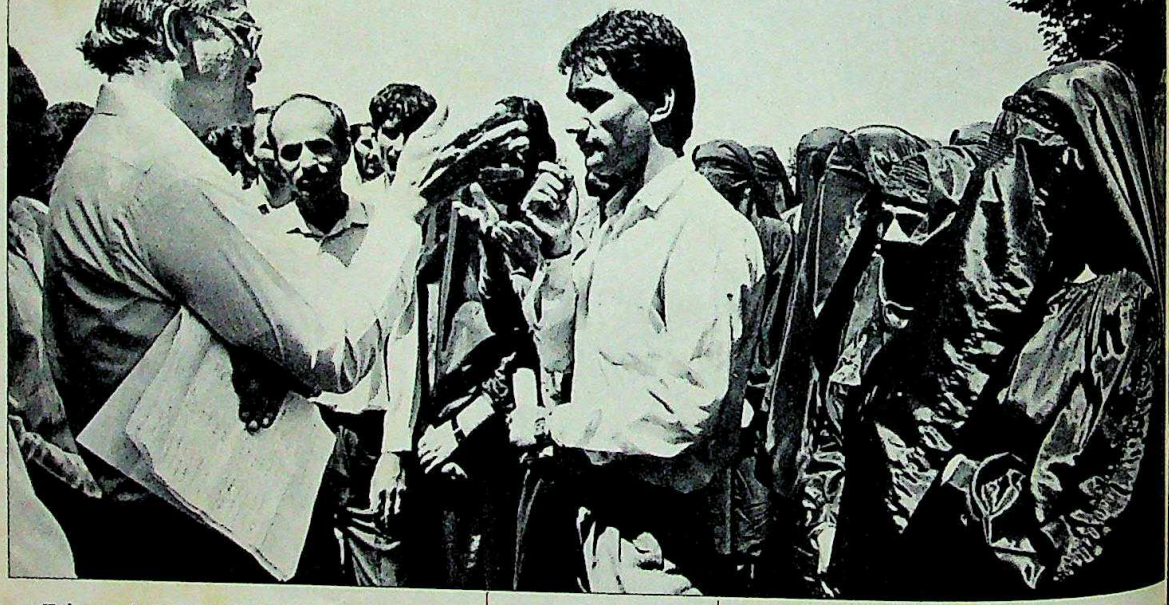
THERE was curfew in May, there is curfew now. There were killings in May, there are killings now. Police vehicles were ambushed in May, they continue to be. Innocents fell prey to militants and security forces then, they do so still.

Yet, there is a change in Kashmir, a subtle, almost indiscernible change that is often attributed to the different styles of the two governors who have ruled the state this year—Jagmohan, who reigned for five months till end-May and Girish Saxena, who has completed almost four months in office.

So, does Governor Saxena have a soft touch where Jagmohan adopted a hard line? Look again and compare the death tolls of April and July. Twenty innocents and 34 militants were killed in April, while 58 innocents and 106 terrorists died in July. The truth is that since Saxena took over the death toll in Valley has shot up.

Yet, if despite the hard facts, the average Kashmiri considers Jagmohan the bigger villain, it is largely because of his personal style and the situation when he took over. For one, he arrived in the Valley when the pro-*azadi* movement

SHARAD SAXENA



Saxena meeting people: avoiding direct confrontation

Take curfew. Since May 23, the day Saxena took charge, Srinagar has not had more than 24 hours of curfew at a stretch, while Jagmohan has still not been forgiven for the 11-day-long curfew clamped in the entire Valley following the kidnappings of vice-chancellor Mushir-ul-Haq and the HMT general manager H.L. Khera. And perhaps learning from Jagmohan's mistakes, Saxena has refrained from imposing curfew on Fridays, a day when people gather at Srinagar's Jama Masjid or Hazrat Bal shrine for prayers and then take out a procession to the UN office. As in the past, such processions are still stopped before they reach the UN office, but instead of seeking a confrontation as earlier, the administration now drives down UN representatives to meet the processionists and take their memorandum.

By delegating work, Saxena has seen to it that he does not have to shoulder all the responsibility.

was at its peak. Curfew or no curfew, crowds of thousands daily poured into the streets and shouted anti-India slogans. The people truly believed that *azadi* was round the corner. The local police sympathised with the secessionists. The Pandits were fleeing en masse. The administration had collapsed and it was the militants' war that ran in the Valley. Besides, it was India's first real effort to deal with urban guerrilla warfare as against the more rural-based militancy of Punjab and the North-east. In that context, Jagmohan was something of a guinea-pig.

Saxena too inherited a bloody mantle, a Valley up in arms against Moulvi Farooq's killing and the subsequent firing on his funeral procession. But there was a crucial difference. If during Jagmohan's reign the militants were testing India

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

strength, by the time Saxena came along, they knew there would be no letting down on the toughness. The increasing number of arrests on the border combined with the tough diplomatic line taken with Pakistan, and Pakistan's own doubts about the JKLF—which continued to demand independence, not union with Pakistan—had punctured the *azadi* bubble somewhat. It had in fact led to a gradual wearing down of the movement. Though separation from India is still the aim of all the militant groups, the pro-*azadi* storm that swept the state during Jagmohan's time, today appears to be petering out into a campaign against excesses of the security forces.

If the situation is different, so are the styles. And the manner in which Jagmohan went about his task only compounded his problems. He trusted few people and preferred to do everything himself. He was one man playing three roles—the policeman, the administrator and the publicity officer. The upshot was that he had to take the flak for everything. To the average Kashmiri, he became the hated symbol of the system they believed was perpetrating atrocities: it was as if Jagmohan himself was firing the bullets, bursting tear-gas shells and engaging the militants in counter action; as if he was personally supervising the searches and seizures.

will take quite some time," are typical Saxena statements. And they are in stark contrast to Jagmohan's declarations like "I retrieved Kashmir from Pakistan," and "I saved Kashmir from a Tiananmen Square situation."

BESIDES, Jagmohan's head on attack on corruption—one of the key causes for public disenchantment with the Government—ultimately boomeranged on him as in the course of his crusade he had to take on some National Conference leaders, the bureaucracy and the clergy. As the hostility grew from all sides it became clear that he had bitten off far more than he could chew.

And all the fronts began to close against him when the Congress(I) and Left began a campaign accusing Jagmohan of being pro-BJP. The BJP's open support for him, in fact, soon proved to be a case of the embrace becoming a suffocating bear-hug. And the man who delights in reciting Urdu couplets was dubbed communal and anti-Muslim.

His isolation was complete when his self-publicity drive set him in direct confrontation not only with George Fernandes, then minister of state for Kashmir affairs, but also against Home Minister Mufti Mohammed Sayeed. The time then was

Jagmohan handling grievances: a larger-than-life image

A one man show was run by Jagmohan. He played policeman, administrator and publicity officer.

As one of Jagmohan's advisers puts it: "It was no fault of his, he lost out because of his belligerent style, for with him it was a one man show."

In the end he paid the price for this larger than life image. Though Jagmohan heard about the firing on Moulvi Farooq's funeral procession—which claimed 57 lives—hours after the incident, it was he who got the flak, and the sack. And as cries of "*Moulvi ka hatyara kaun, Jagmohan,*" rent the air, he left the Valley dubbed a killer.

Saxena, in contrast, keeps a low profile and works behind the scenes. And he delegates work which means he does not have to shoulder all the responsibility. Compare some of his statements with that of his predecessor: "As long as incidents keep taking place we can't describe the situation as satisfactory," or "There are hopeful signs but it

definitely not right for initiating any kind of political dialogue, but as Fernandes insisted on opening channels, the people's alienation from Jagmohan increased further. The same mass of humanity who once flocked to see him now went to Fernandes. Even militants started secret negotiations with Fernandes. Besides, Fernandes wanted to open negotiations with Farooq Abdullah, something Jagmohan was strongly opposed to as he considered the former chief minister responsible for the situation in the state. The situation was compounded with Mufti publicly supporting Jagmohan but secretly working against him, and publicly condemning terrorism but privately calling Srinagar to release the 'boys'.

Caught between wanting to wield the carrot and the stick, New Delhi sent confused signals.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

 Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

And as the fiercely independent Jagmohan clashed repeatedly with Union ministers, the prime minister had to intervene and do a balancing act between an anti-Jagmohan Left and the pro-Jagmohan BJP. The upshot was that Kashmir constantly came into focus in Parliament.

Girish Saxena's cool, almost laid-back approach, towards the reinitiation of the political process means that it is no longer a case of governor versus New Delhi. Besides, having learnt from trial and error, the Centre is sending out fewer conflicting signals. Fernandes has been vested of his Kashmir portfolio though the Farooq factor still exists. And Saxena, in keeping with his style, recently held a secret meeting with Farooq but later minced no words while discussing Abdullah's limitations with Central leaders.

And in keeping with his characteristic RAW image, Saxena is working behind the scenes to establish lines of communication with the terrorists. Here, indications are that he could be working on arrested militants, including Hamid Sheikh, the recently nabbed deputy chief of the JKLF, and Yasin Malik, to start a dialogue.

Jagmohan too had established links with the underground—particularly through militant leader Shabir Shah—in an effort to begin reviving the political process. But since he clashed so violently with Fernandes, all his efforts on the political front came to nought.

With fewer political pressures constricting him, Saxena—visible mainly to those who come to the Raj Bhawan to see him at durbar time—is now free to direct his energies at minimising security forces excesses. Along with avoiding day curfew—to enable a semblance of normal life to continue—he has also issued clear orders to the paramilitary forces not to conduct searches unless they had specific information about militants being in a particular locality. He has also set up a screening committee to go into the average Kashmiri's complaints and instituted courts of enquiry into eight cases of excesses. Two security force personnel, against whom prima facie evidence existed on the charge of rape, have been suspended. But as a senior police official points out: "Jagmohan too ordered enquiries into excesses, but with him it was interpreted to be a case of rubbing salt on wounds, for thanks to his yen for the limelight, he was seen to be the one who had perpetrated the searches, the seizures and the killings and then ordered the enquiry."

BUT Saxena's efforts on the economy front are certainly softer than Jagmohan's. He has roped in the National Dairy Development Board to buy 1 lakh tonne apples from the state, something Jagmohan was opposed to as he feared the growers would use the money to buy arms. Besides, under Saxena, the state has also set aside Rs 15 crore for the handicrafts industry and is planning to set up craft bazaars in Delhi and other places for the Kashmiris to find outlets for their goods.

If Saxena appears to be succeeding on many fronts where Jagmohan failed it is not only because of the subtle change in the situation but also because the Government appears to have learnt some lessons from the past. The result is that today there is a better chain of command in the administration and security forces; a new policy of infiltration of terrorist groups; and selective curfews and searches.

MERAJ-UD-DIN

Coffins of civilians killed in BSF firing: a mounting toll

The pro-*azadi* storm is petering out into a campaign against excesses by the security forces.

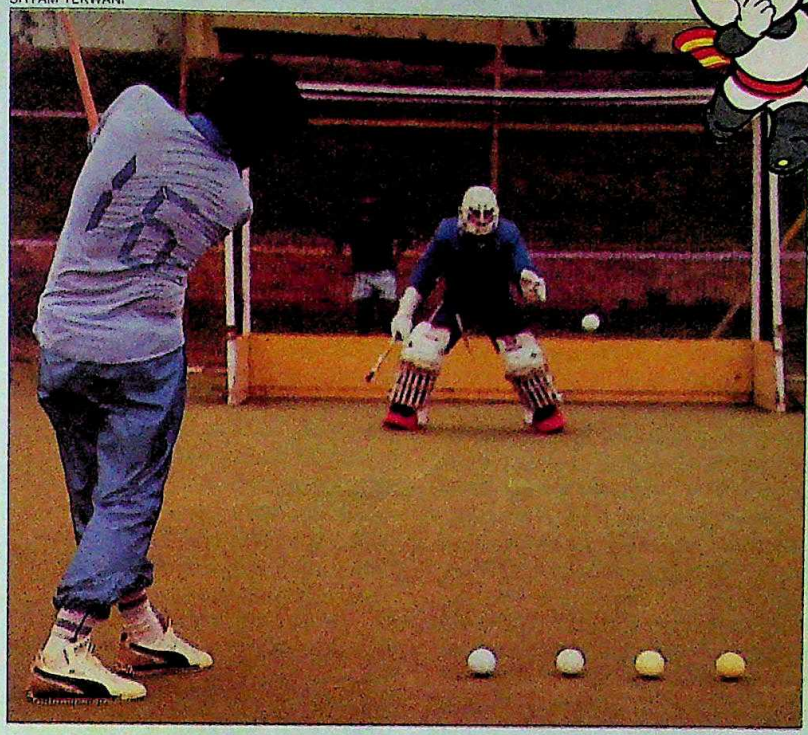
Yet the violence in the Valley continues unabated—last fortnight in the span of a week the militants made an attempt on the lives of four leading police officers, killing five of their guards. At the same time the death toll—of both militants, security forces and civilians—continues to mount.

But facts count for little when the public perception differs. And if in the public eye Jagmohan was an AK-47 assault rifle—swift, rapid fire and lethal—then Saxena is a sniper rifle—slow, cautious and precise.

—HARINDER BAWEJA in Srinagar

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



SHYAM TEKWANI

Practising penalty strokes at Bangalore: do or die effort

potential. Often enough, on form alone, India has been reckoned to be marginally stronger than Pakistan and many top European teams in recent years. But two crucial areas—mental toughness and endurance—have been their undoing. India's recent 4-2 victory against Pakistan at the BMW Trophy in Amstelveen is a case in point. After leading 4-0, India relaxed and then were far too tired and sluggish to convincingly fend off repeated Pakistani onslaughts in the last 15 minutes. "Ten more minutes and Pakistan would have won 5-4. My boys just didn't have the stamina," admits Sharma. Now, he claims that problem has been ironed out, notwithstanding the humiliation against the B team.

There are bigger humiliations the team has to worry about. Earlier in the year it finished 10th in a field of 12 in the Lahore World Cup. And in the last Asiad it scraped a mere bronze, behind South Korea and Pakistan. This time too, no one is under any illusion that the Asiad will be a straight India-Pakistan stand-off. Malaysia are never to be underestimated and this time, on home turf, China too could spring a surprise or two. "Today every match is like a final," says Rahman.

Yet the mood in the team is upbeat as underlined by skipper and star defender Pargat Singh, 25, who, many think, could easily be one of the three best hockey players in the world. "The boys have worked hard. If we click at the right time *pa-ji*, and have a little luck, we'll win," he says.

Though four changes have been made in the side that went to Holland the team management relies on continuity with at least seven experienced players in the line-up. In the eight-week pre-Asiad training the stress has been on strengthening defence. Newcomer Harinder Singh, 21, adds depth to defence, so that there are now four deep defenders including Pargat instead of the customary three.

The other weak area is conversion of penalty corners. In Amstelveen the team scored seven times in 21 shots. That is too little, particularly as the team will be up against rough-tackling teams like China and South Korea that will intimidate forwards even at the cost of conceding penalty corners. "We must convert at least 40 per cent if not 60," says Sharma.

In a departure from the tactics of former chief coach M.P. Ganesh, the team has been asked to concentrate only on four variations of the penalty corner instead of 12 to prevent confusion. Pargat, Jagdev Singh, 21, and Mohammed Arif, 20, are the three strikers. If conversion is the team's weakness, saving penalty corners is supposed to be one of its main strengths. In Amstelveen only six goals were conceded in 49 hits—and just one to Pakistan in 14, that too when the mercurial Ram Prakash Singh, who makes dare-devil rushes to block the striker, was injured.

Improvements in stamina and defence have further helped to improve the already high team spirit.

Experts, however, still see gaps in the defence. "There are gaps between the defence and the forward line resulting in a lack of fluent and coordinated moves," said V. Bhaskaran, captain of the last gold medal-winning Moscow Olympics team.

The impressive front line—with the energy and efficiency of Thoiba Singh, 24, Jude Felix, 25, who missed the Amstelveen Tournament because of an injured collar bone and Dhanraj Pillay, 22—can give any defence a run for its money. The inclusion of John Fernandez in the half line is specifically aimed at containing Pakistan's quicksilver spearhead Shahbaz Ahmed. "We can win the gold if we manage to bottle up Shahbaz and Waseem Feroze from Pakistan's left flank," says former player-turned-selector Vece Paes. The defence is also strained by a weak half-line.

But team management says the key is fitness and that is what they have worked most strenuously at. "The muscles of the waist, thighs and calves are the most strained and need special care," emphasised D'Cruz who has devised a special yoga programme for the players to reduce the strain on their waist. The dietary patterns have also been revised. Three hundred grams of potato chips and 100 grams of cheese were added to increase the carbohydrate and protein content in the players' daily diet.

As form goes, India should battle it out with Pakistan for the gold. And they better win.

—SHEKHAR GUPTA and AMARNATH K. MENON in Bangalore

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

are individually doing 400 m under 48 seconds and that is good news," says coach Prabhu. National coach Joginder Singh Saini too echoes the upbeat mood: "We are witnessing a revival of our middle-distance strength."

WHILE the athletes sweat it out on the track and field, at the other end of the competitive spectrum lie the archers. Here it is a matter of skill and a lot of nerve and so brawn takes a back seat. Till some years ago, archery was non-existent as a competitive sport in India. Today it is a clear medal prospect, thanks to the Sports Authority of India's Special Areas Games Programme that took experts to scout for talent all over the country—archers, for instance, from the North-east and oarsmen for canoeing and kayaking from the backwaters of Kerala.

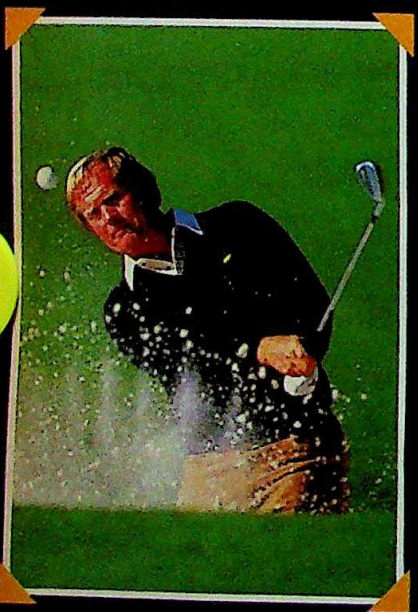
Even in preparing for the Asiad the archers have been ahead of the field, showing better organisation and planning. They are also buoyed by recent successes. At the Federation Cup in Delhi in April they collected 914 points to China's 901 to get the gold in the men's team event. Earlier they had also made a very successful appearance at a European championship in Malta. And recently, the team of Shyam Lal, Dul Chand, Limba Ram and Sanjeev Singh went to Beijing for the Invitation Cup and collected 950 points to finish second behind China's 958 points. South Korea, the Olympic champions, have a high of 986 points in the team events.

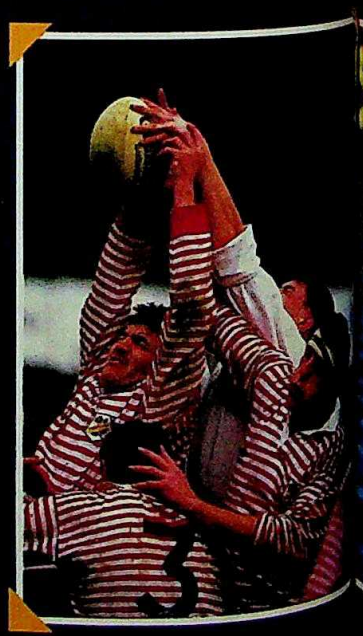
This itself augurs well. More significantly, it has helped instil that much-needed confidence into the team. "Everybody in the team has a hundred per cent chance of a medal," said coach Somen Das, as the arrows whizzed past him at the Indira Gandhi sports complex in Delhi where the team has been training. The Russian coach Alexandre Nikolev has been with the team for nearly two years now. "We'll certainly reach the semi-finals. After that it's anybody's game," says a cautious V.K. Malhotra, president of the Archery Association of India.

The archery team should have the least complaints among all Indian squads for the Asiad for it has been given the best possible facilities and equipment (each imported bow costs over Rs 20,000). The Asiad team has also been going to psychology classes to help them build their concentration and motor-control so very vital to a sport like this where all that matters is that the archer is in total command of all his faculties at the micro-moment when he is poised to release the arrow. And that is a vital point, for too often in the past have Indian archers been overawed by the big occasion, returning scores ridiculously lower than their best levels. N

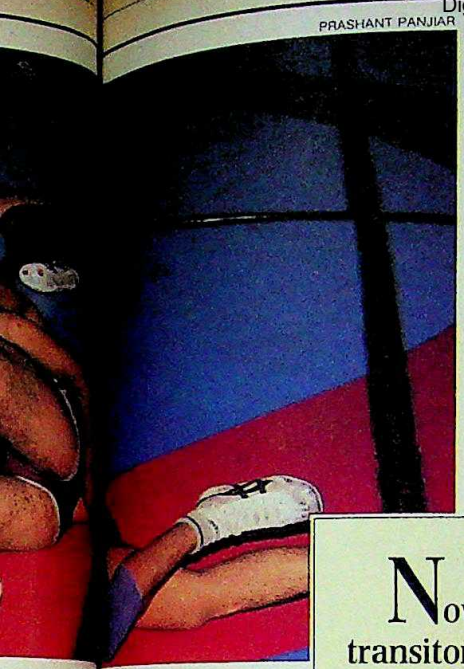
Wrestlers w
polishir
one has fo
fiasco at
Olympics.
least the tea
ers, and th

NOW FOR YOUR VERY OWN LIBRARY, SPORTS AT ITORIA





Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



PRASHANT PANJIAR

Wrestlers working out: polishing skills

atters is that the
hand of all his
oment when he
row. And that is
ten in the past
n overawed by
ng scores ridic
best levels. N

one has forgotten the fiasco at the Seoul Olympics. Not in the least the team managers, and that explains the stress on psychological training. Archery, experts say, is 60 per cent a game of skill, 5 per cent luck and 35 per cent nerve. So, as coach Das explains, the key to victory will lie in the minds of his obviously talented archers.

Now in a transitory phase, the wrestling team lacks depth but could still herald a new revival.

TRADITIONALLY, wrestling has been India's forte at the Asian and Commonwealth levels, invariably bringing some medals even though the tallies have been declining of late. Even the current squad has a few who should win medals especially as even the number four gets a bronze these days.

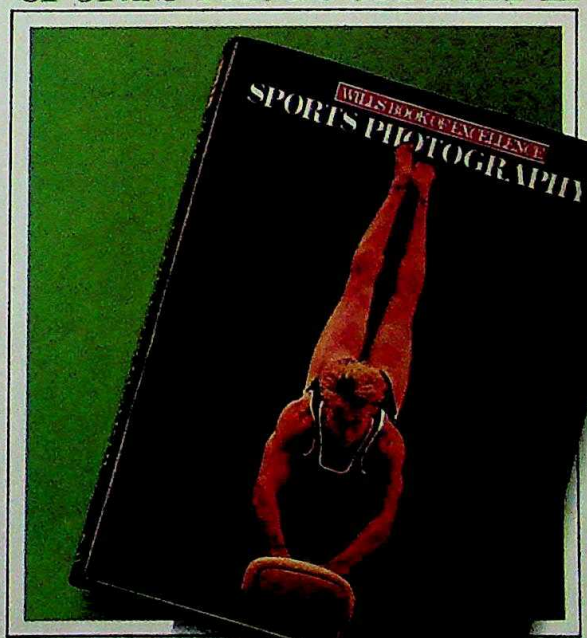
The team includes six wrestlers in the freestyle category—(Ombir Singh: 48 kg, Jagdeep Singh: 52 kg, Ashok Kumar: 57 kg, Satyavan: 74 kg, Sanjay Kumar: 90 kg, Subash Verma: 100 kg)—which is usually India's strong point and three for Greco-Roman style (Kaka Pawar: 48 kg, M.R. Patil: 62 kg, Malkhan Singh: 100 kg) where India has really done well. These nine have been selected out of more than 30 wrestlers who have been in coaching camps since January 1989 under Russian coaches Granit Taporin (freestyle) and Vasely Rubinsky (Greco-Roman). All of them can bring in medals but the brightest prospects are Pawar in Greco-Roman who won the gold in the recently concluded Saddam Hussein Cup in Baghdad and heavyweights Sanjay Kumar and Subash Verma. According to Chief Coach K.N. Singh Indian wrestling is passing through a transitional phase after the period of those like Kartar Singh. "Long coaching camps without exposure to international competition have no meaning," he said.

Not that there hasn't been any exposure. The freestylers went to USSR in July. But Indian wrestling also owes its dwindling medal tallies to known traditional weaknesses. Most wrestlers still learn basic skills in mud at *akharas* making it difficult for them to adjust to mats in the big league later. Diet is another problem. Despite repeated warnings from foreign coaches and expert Indian wrestlers they continue to

S AT IT TORIAL BEST

WILLS BOOK OF EXCELLENCE

SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHY II



Wills brings together some of the greatest poets of the camera to recreate the thrills and spills and throbbing moments in the world of sports... Patrick Eagar, Adrian Murrell, Tommy Hindley and priceless gems from the archives of Allsport, Professional Sport and Sports Illustrated. Order your copy today.

Price Rs 175

Published and distributed by **Orient Longman**

Photo Editor : **Raghu Rai**

Please mail ___ copy/ copies of Wills Book of Excellence : Sports Photography II, by V.P.P. to

Name : .....

Address : .....

WILLS

Promoting excellence in sport

A 4136

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

MAN AT WORK

Your environment.
Your work.
Your considerations.
Your way of life.
Your comfort,
easy and affordable.

Euro-styled for you.

Trousers from –
Rs. 195/- to 500/-
Shirts from –
Rs. 110/- to 300/-

For more information
write to:
Siyaram's Silk Mills Ltd.
J.R. Boricha Marg,
Bombay-400 011.

Or just call:
397451, 392917

Siyaram's

EXEMBER

SHIRTS & TROUSE

GOOD LIFE YOU CAN AFFORD

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

gorge copious volumes of desi ghee and almonds, rendering themselves muscle and fat-bound and slow in a game where agility is as important as strength. Coaches also despair over other things some of their wards are believed to have been swallowing behind their backs. Already the team has suffered the humiliation of seeing one of its key members, Jagdeep Singh in the 57 kg freestyle category, test positive to drugs. Both Jagdeep and his coach say they do not know how it happened but it has left palpable tension in the wrestling camp.

THE shadow of dope also looms over the other power sport in which India is expecting medals: weightlifting. Barely had the team recovered from the shock of having a lifter, Subrata Paul, disqualified at the Auckland Commonwealth Games earlier this year, when the team management discovered, to its horror, that at least two other lifters—women in this case—had also tested positive for dope at the selection trials. The rest, nine women and three men, have been given careful tests and cleared. Female lifters are the surprise package and are considered even better medal hopes than men. The reason is that women's weightlifting is new as a competitive sport and India has an advantage, being one of the first countries to have started with the sport. Three of the lifters bagged medals at the recent world championships, but coach Shyamlal Salwan cautions against exaggerated optimism. And for good reason as women's weightlifting is one of the very few fields in which Asia dominates the world. "In weightlifting the international equation changes. Sometimes in world championships the first three spots are cornered by Asians, particularly in the lighter weight categories," he says. An Asian championship, then, is very much like the world championship. Salwan, consequently, thinks gold medals are out of the question but India stands a good chance of several bronzes and an odd silver if "the girls are at their best at the moment which matters".

At the Bangalore centre the lifters are under the eye of Salwan and Soviet coach Gennady Rabakun who, unlike many other warring Indian-foreign coach pairs, seem to have a reasonably good equation. The communication can sometimes be comical with Salwan talking in faltering Russian to Rabakun who replies in worse English.

ATHLETIC RECORDS

MEN

EVENTS	WORLD	ASIAN	INDIAN
100 m	9.92 sec	10.20 sec	10.60 sec
200 m	19.72 sec	20.41 sec	20.7 sec
400 m	43.29 sec	44.56 sec	45.6 sec
800 m	1:41.73 sec	1:45.77 sec	1:45.77 sec
1500 m	3:29.46 sec	3:38.24 sec	3:41.98 sec
5000 m	12:58.39 sec	13:22.97 sec	13:46.40 sec
10000 m	27:08.34 sec	27:35.33 sec	28:48.72 sec
3000 m St	8:05.02 sec	8:19.52 sec	8:30.88 sec
400 m H	47.02 sec	49.20 sec	51.6 sec
4 × 100m R	37.79 sec	39.05 sec	40.14 sec
4 × 400m R	2:56.16 sec	3:02.33 sec	3:07.20 sec
20 km Wk	1:19.12	1:21.39	1:25.48
50 km Wk	3:38.17	3:52.51	4:19.48
Marathon	2:06.50	2:07.35	2:12.00
High jump	2.44 m	2.39 m	2.16 m
Long jump	8.90 m	8.23 m	8.07 m
Shotput	23.06 m	19.26 m	18.77 m
Discus	74.08 m	61.06 m	57.70 m
Javelin	90.98 m	87.60 m	72.08 m
Hammer	86.74 m	75.96 m	65.76 m
Decathlon	8847 pts	8009 pts	7378 pts

WOMEN

EVENTS	WORLD	ASIAN	INDIAN
100 m	10.49 sec	11.22 sec	11.39 sec
200 m	21.34 sec	22.62 sec	23.27 sec
400 m	47.60 sec	51.61 sec	51.61 sec
800 m	1:53.28 sec	1:58.00 sec	2:03.16 sec
1500 m	3:52.47 sec	4:09.50 sec	4:19.33 sec
3000 m	8:22.62 sec	8:50.68 sec	9:14.70 sec
10000 m	30:13.74 sec	31:27.00 sec	35:27.00 sec
100 m H	12.25 sec	12.89 sec	14.02 sec
400 m H	52.94 sec	55.42 sec	55.42 sec
4 × 100m R	41.37 sec	44.61 sec	44.84 sec
4 × 400m R	3:15.18 sec	3:31.55 sec	3:31.55 sec
10 km Wk		43:45.00	53:03.3
Long jump	7.52 m	6.89 m	6.26 m
Shotput	22.63 m	21.06 m	14.58 m
Discus	76.80 m	68.62 m	48.92 m
Jevelin	80.00 m	65.50 m	51.88 m
High jump	2.09 m	1.96 m	1.74 m
Heptathlon	7291 pts	6211 pts	5244 pts

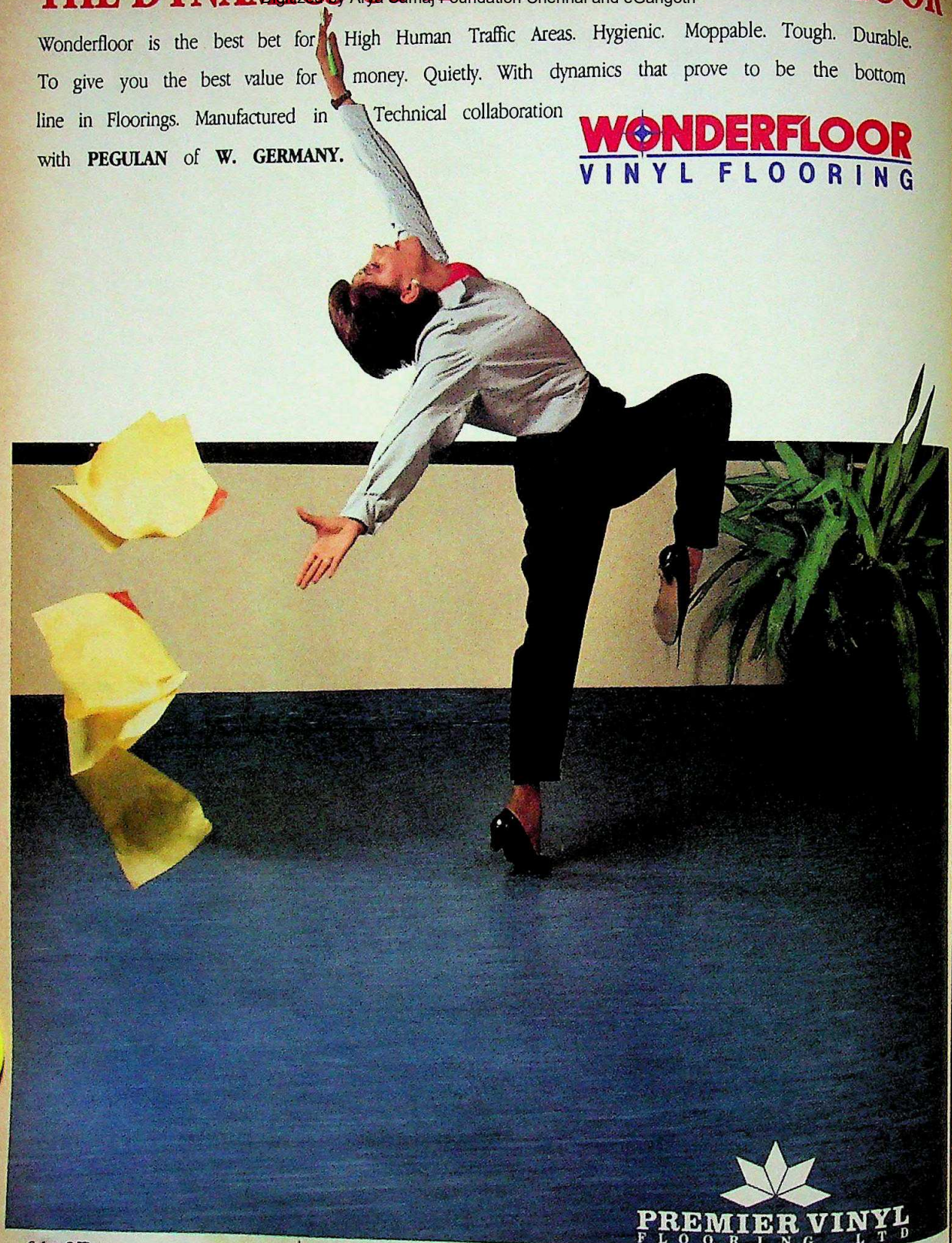
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

THE DYNAMICS OF A HARD WORKING FLOOR

Wonderfloor is the best bet for High Human Traffic Areas. Hygienic. Moppable. Tough. Durable. To give you the best value for money. Quietly. With dynamics that prove to be the bottom line in Floorings. Manufactured in Technical collaboration with **PEGULAN** of **W. GERMANY.**

WONDERFLOOR
VINYL FLOORING



PREMIER VINYL FLOORING LTD
IN TECHNICAL COLLABORATION WITH PEGULAN WEST GERMANY

Sales Offices:

New Delhi: C-4, Commercial Centre, Safdarjung Dev. Area, New Delhi-110 016. Phone: 668329/6864190 **Calcutta:** 3rd Floor No. 3, Netaji Subhash Rd., Calcutta 700 001. Phone: 281702/281703 **Patna:** Shiva-Dham, Nala Road, Kadam Kuan, Patna 800 003 Phone: 59342. **Bombay:** 328, Kaliandas Udyog Bhavan, Behind Century Bazar, Worli, Bombay 400 025 Phone: 4300289/4228839 **Bangalore:** 190/1, 4th Floor, Kota Shopping Complex, Brigade Road, Bangalore 560 001 Phone: 571178 **Madras:** 43, IVth Trust Cross Street, Mandaveli, Madras 600 028 **Hyderabad:** Emerald Complex, 3rd Floor, Adj. Park Lane, P.O. 2029, Sarojini Devi Road, Secunderabad 500 003 Phone: 844804 **Cochin:** XI/1535, Shenoy Rd., Kaloor, Cochin 682 017. **Chandigarh:** H. No. 1074, Sector 19-B, Chandigarh 160 019 Phone: 43482. **Baroda:** No. 6, Kailash Park Society, Behind Central Bank, Race Course Rd., Ellora Park, Baroda-390 007 Phone: 321471. **Lucknow:** 20, Rana Pratap Marg, Lucknow-226 001. Phone: 234318. **Guwahati:** Moni Ram Dewan Lane, Ulubari, Guwahati 781 007.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

But it works. "Our best chance will come in the heavier weights as there the competition from the Chinese and the Koreans will be less," says Salwan. Once the Asiad fever is over, it will be time for the weightlifting management to take a long-term view of the dope problem. But Salwan is not so optimistic about the future. The reason according to him is that "Indians have reached the saturation level in terms of techniques and scientific training. Our lifters can heave more only if they tone up muscles all over the body to lift a little extra and add to the total."

WATER sports have traditionally brought India a medal or two and that should be the case this time as well especially after the systematic training given to the Alleppey-based canoeing and kayaking team selected from the Special Areas Games Programme. The Madras-based women rowers too are capable of springing a surprise at the Haizi reservoir.

In boxing, besides the two Koreas Indian boxers will also have to contend with Pakistan which is now a redoubtable force having won an Olympic bronze. In kabaddi, which is debuting at the Asiad, India is a clear favourite in a field of just six. "The stiffest challenge is expected from Bangladesh," says kabaddi coach

CHINA, JAPAN, SOUTH KOREA

The Battle Royal

THE Asian Games could more aptly be called a quadrangular contest between China, Japan and the Koreas. The last 15 countries together got fewer medals than China's golds in 1986. And the bottom nine didn't have a gold.

Leading the 838-member host contingent are the athletes who are bound to dominate the field and most of the track events. High Jumper Chen Yu Ping is expected to clear over 2.32 m; sprinters Chen Zheng (10.30 seconds in 100 m) and Li Tao (10.28 seconds) will give Indonesia's Mardi Lestari (10.20 seconds), Qatar's Talal Mansoor (20.73 seconds for 200 m) and Korea's Chang Jae-Keun (20.41 seconds) a stiff run for their sprint medals.

The Chinese women's contingent is equally impressive. Wang Xiu Ting is the only Asian woman to have broken the 32-minute barrier in the 10,000 metres. Shot putters Huang Zhihong (best 21.28 metres) and Sui Xamei (21.66 metres) will face little opposition. Discus thrower Hou Xuemei has a best of 66.46 m and long jumper Liu Shuzhan 6.92 m. Japan's Mugumi Sato could get her second gold in the high jump.

Little Qatar, apart from Mansoor, has Mohammed Slimene who should be a medal winner in the 1,500 m (3 minutes, 40.57 seconds) and if lucky, in the 3,000 m steeple chase as well. Qatar's Ibrahim Ismail who won the 400 m at the Delhi Asian Track and Field Meet with a timing of 45.60 secs, pipping the favourite Mohamed Amer Al Malky of Oman (best: 44.56 seconds), could spring yet another surprise. And with Japan's Susumo Takano—who has done the lap at 45 seconds—also in the fray, the event is a sure record breaker. Says Ranjit Bhatia, renowned athletics expert: "The Chinese have a clear edge in most field events especially the womens section. But Japan has the depth and overall strength. There will be a good spread in the sprints."

In the swimming pool too the Chinese (15 golds at the last Asiad) and the Japanese (17 golds) are bound to make the biggest splash. Chinese divers are world class now and this time the spotlight should be on 13-year-old Fu Mingxia, who created waves at the Seattle Goodwill Games recently and veteran diver Tan Liangde who won the silver in both the 1984 and 1988 Olympics, behind Greg Louganis. Japan's swimming star should be schoolgirl Suzu Chiba (200 and 400 m freestyle).

In gymnastics, China will have to unveil their new gymnastic wizard to replace Li Ning, a veritable tower.

Asia has long dominated badminton and the world rankings released this month show only two non-Asians among the top 10. China has four men and four women among the top 10 but it will have to fend off the furious smashes of the star-studded Indonesian and South Korean teams.

In table tennis, China has yet to recover from the shock of the 0-5 defeat at the hands of Sweden in the final of the last Swathling Cup. But the fact that the 1988 Olympic men singles title winner Cheng Jing failed to make it to the squad shows that the Chinese table tennis team is a power to contend with.

China will use the Beijing Games to say that the last socialist bastion will continue to churn out champions from its regimented assembly lines. And they might want to believe that the glory of Asian supremacy will help wipe away some of the blood blots from Tiananmen Square.

—BINOO K. JOHN

MEDALS: CHANGING EQUATION

	1978 BANGKOK			1982 NEW DELHI			1986 SEOUL		
MEDALS	G	S	B	G	S	B	G	S	B
CHINA	51	54	46	61	51	41	94	82	46
JAPAN	70	59	49	57	52	44	58	76	77
S. KOREA	18	20	31	28	28	37	93	55	76
INDIA	11	11	6	13	19	25	5	9	23

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

E. Prasad Rao. But experts say Pakistan is not to be taken lightly.

The upbeat mood in the Indian camp is to be seen in the background of the kind of depths Olympic sports had touched in India. Athletics was finished, with even Usha announcing her retirement, hockey was thrown in total confusion with the row between players and Indian Hockey Federation and weightlifters had just discovered that old sins could be caught out by the latest dope tests. Admits a senior Sports Ministry official: "At one point earlier this year we were thinking in terms of a solitary kabaddi gold. Now, with luck, we should do better than in 1986."

There has been much criticism of the stringent, senseless selection criteria applied by the ministry—the third place performance at the last Asiad. This obviously denies many an upcoming athlete competitive opportunity. "We do it on a mathematical basis which is wrong," says Ranjit Bhatia. Critics say this insistence on "third place performance" is no more than bureaucratic logic for, often, an athlete's performance depends on how he is pushed. Major meets often see athletes perform much better than their earlier bests. For instance, Usha hasn't touched her 400 m hurdles timing of 55.42 sec which she did at Los Angeles. The exclusion of Ram Niwas on this illogical criterion might in all probability cost India an extra medal in 1500 m or the 5000 m. "If a top Indian athlete is not given the chance to compete at the Asiad where else will he compete ?" asks Bhatia.

There are other controversies. The volleyball team has been dropped due to two defeats against Pakistan. India won a bronze at Seoul and the team should have been given a chance to defend it. Moreover, after football the mass-based game is the most popular in the country and the exclusion of the team has struck a near-mortal blow to the game in India. On the other hand, 17 cyclists who have almost no chance at all have been selected. India has had just three cycling medals since 1952. Now there seems to be some hope in the 100 km road team trial (Murari Lal, Lakhvinder Singh, Hira Ram, Christopher and R.N. Attar). But the rest of the cyclists should have made way for volleyball. The judo team is perhaps being sent because there are so few entries in the event and some of them could win by just getting a bye. All that may help India scrounge some more bronzes.

But then nobody in India ever expects a miracle at Beijing. The bottomline for the Indian sports enthusiast is a tally that is an improvement over the miserable 37 medals won in 1986. And of course, a hockey gold to wash away all the other sins.

—SHEKHAR GUPTA with BINOO K. JOHN, AMARNATH K. MENON in Bangalore and INDIRA KANNAN in Patiala

SHYAM TEKWANI

Kabaddi team training: medal hopes

The inclusion of kabaddi for the first time should give India a leg-up in the medals tally.

Jyotsana Datta (82 kg plus): new discovery

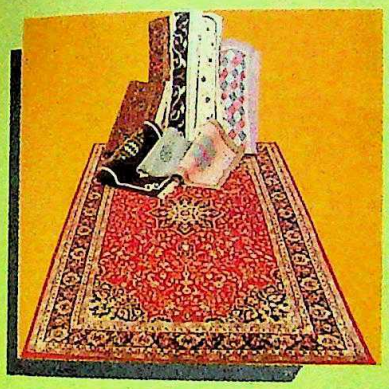
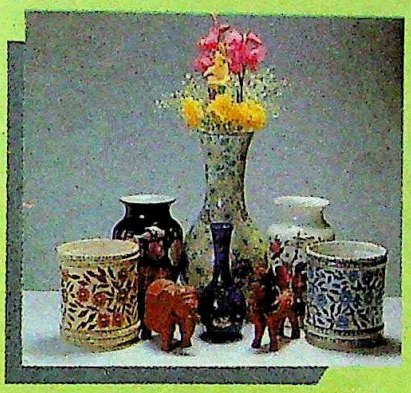
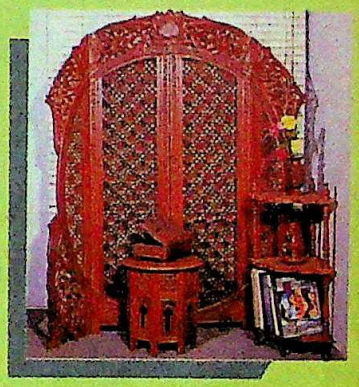
BHAWAN SINGH

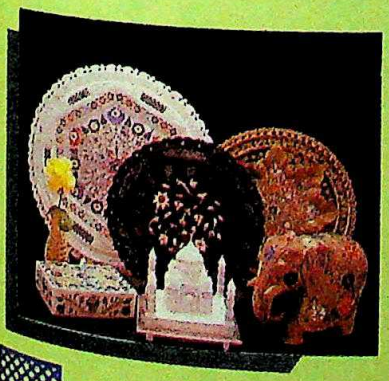
Female weightlifters are a surprise package in an event dominated by Asians.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Beautiful ideas for a beautiful home!



Classic workmanship. That tells the story of expertise handed down through generations to inspire you to decorate, furnish, and dress-up at your imaginative and appealing best!

NAA/D/UPEC-90

GANGOTRI

U.P. EXPORT CORPORATION LTD.

SHOWROOMS AT : • New Delhi, Baba Kharak Singh Marg, Tel. : 343559. • Bombay, WTC Cuffee Parade, Tel. : 2871187 • Calcutta, Lindsay Street Tel. : 245714. • Bangalore, Residency Road, Tel. : 572655 • Hyderabad, Abid Road, Tel. : 603860 • Bhopal, Hamidiya Road, Tel. : 75890 • Allahabad, M.G. Road, Tel. : 603860 • Lucknow, Hazrat Ganj, Tel. : 244377, Aminabad Tel. : 244362 • Kanpur, Swaroop Nagar, Tel. : 294172 • Nagpur, Mound Road, Tel. : 533221 • Agra, Taj Compound Tel. : 360172.

REGD. OFFICE : B-27, SARVODAYA NAGAR, KANPUR-208 005.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

OUR 15,000 MERCHANT OUTLETS WILL NEVER ASK YOU FOR MONEY

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

All you do is flash your MasterCard. It's the most widely accepted credit card in the country. You can use it at more restaurants, hotels, department stores and supermarkets than any other card. Buy the

smallest item on their list if you like. And you'll never be charged a paisa extra. It doesn't matter which of these cards you own. They're all part of the MasterCard family. And can be used at the

merchant outlets of all these leading banks in India. So if your wallet's without a MasterCard, make sure to contact any of the banks whose cards are shown here. You'll be most welcome.

MasterCard

BANK IN YOUR POCKET

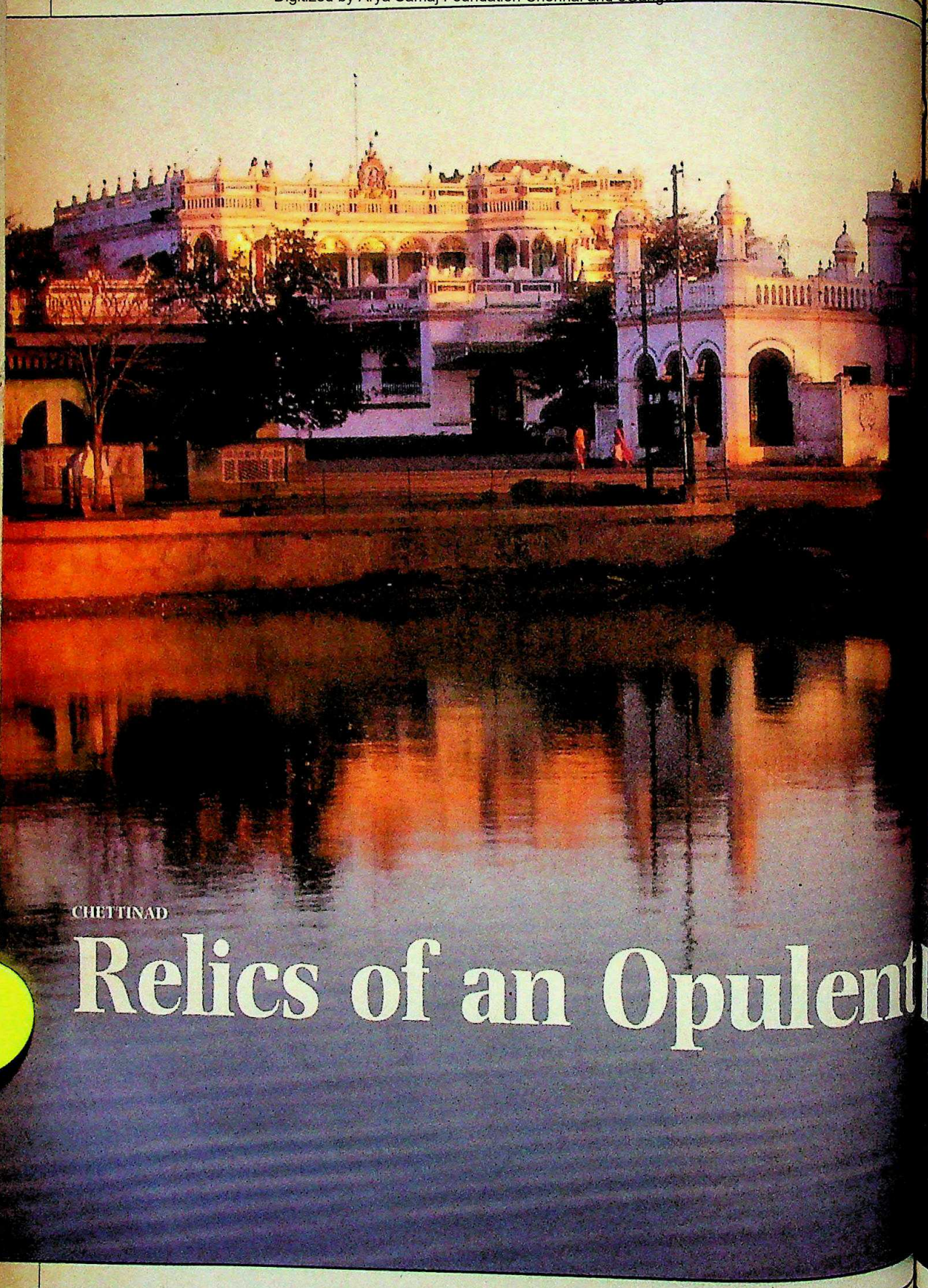
ADVERTISING SPONSORED BY MASTERCARD MEMBER BANKS IN INDIA: ANDHRA BANK, BANK OF AMERICA, BANK OF INDIA, CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA, CITIBANK N.A., HONGKONGBANK, UNITED BANK OF INDIA, VIJAYA BANK, THE VYSYA BANK LTD. AND MASTERCARD INTERNATIONAL INC

LINTAS RC DEL.MAS 3C 2738

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

PHOTO FEATURE BY SHYAM TEKWANI

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

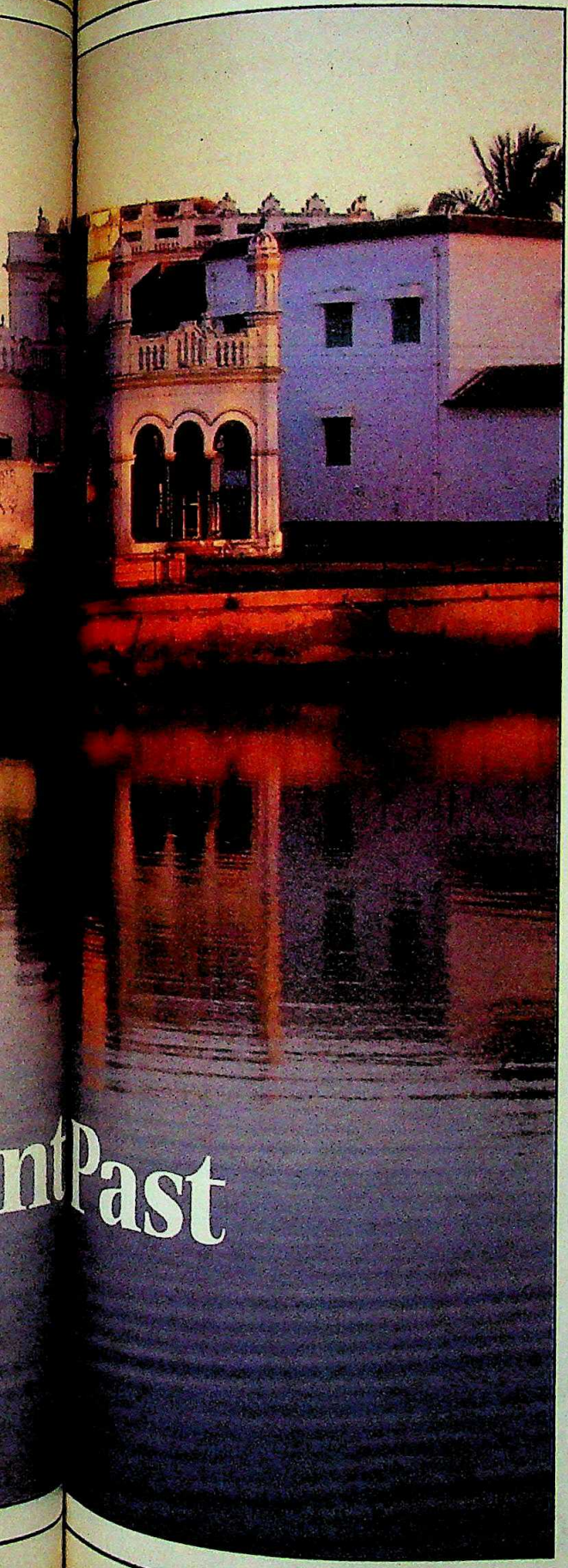


CHETTINAD

Relics of an Opulent Pas

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

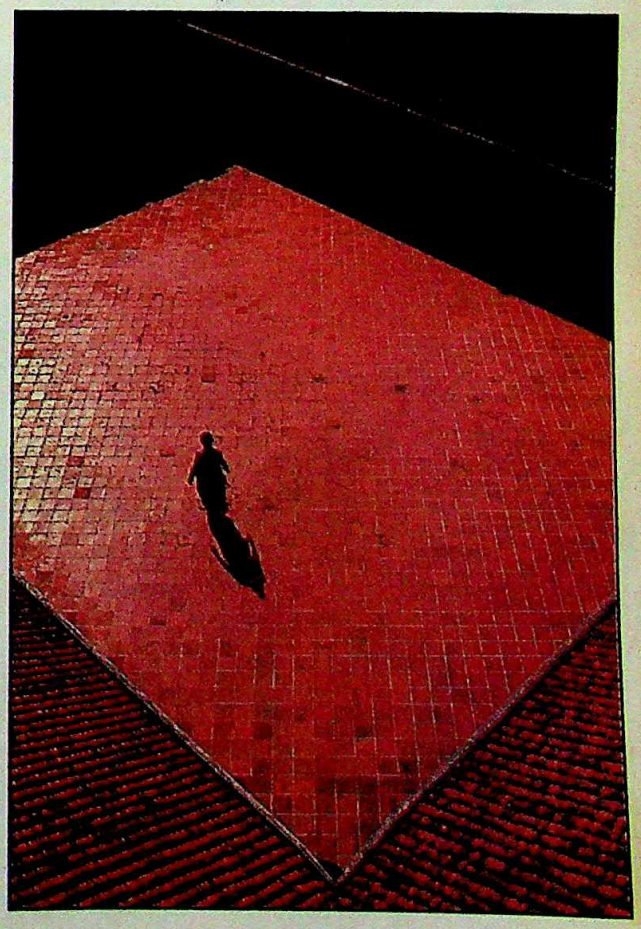


A DRY dust-laden wind blows desultorily across Kanadukathan, a sleepy village in the heart of the Pasumpon Muthiramalinga Thevar district near Tiruchirapally in the heart of Tamil Nadu. It was once the repository of the fabulous wealth of the Chettiar community. But today it is almost desolate. An old woman squats outside her crumbling home washing utensils. Beyond her are the stately old mansions that stand like monoliths silhouetted against the barren brown landscape bearing testimony to the declining fortunes of the Chettiar community. The cobwebbed corridors of those buildings echo with the glory of the past, but their desolate courtyards now attract only bats, monkeys and marauding antique dealers.

Not so long ago, these buildings were symbols of the massive affluence of the Chettiars (population: around 90,000). Today there are only a few Chettiars in Malaysia, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Europe and America who send home money to maintain the old palaces. The rest are busy selling bits and pieces of their palatial mansions to survive. Says Somasundram Chettiar, 90: "The good days of the Chettiars are gone." The result: the Chettiars, most of whom are facing penury, are ripping apart the exquisitely carved Burma teak and mahogany doors and windows from these mansions to be sold to antique dealers at huge prices.

The Burma teak and satinwood pillars holding up the Chettiar mansions then cost as much as Rs 3,000 per cubic foot. In one house in Kanadukathan, 300 tonnes of Burma teak was used for pillars. 'Colombo' Subbiah Chettiar, who returned to his ancestral home in Kanadukathan after

● **The mansion of Annamalai Chettiar, the raja of Chettinad; and (below) red-tiled courtyard and the slanting tiled roof**



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

winding up his business in Sri Lanka raps proudly at the huge bench made from pure Ceylon teakwood. "A gentleman offered me a fabulous sum for it. But I will not sell," he says.

But few Chettiars today can afford not to sell. There are many antique shops in Karaikudi, the main township in the area that deals in such relics from Chettiar households. But even such business is on the downslide as there is little left in the phantom palaces to be ravaged.

If the woodwork in the mansions is exotic then the chemistry of the wall plaster is even more so, giving them an enviable finish. The plaster was made from a mixture of lime, eggwhite, powdered shells and myrobalan fruit all ground to a smooth paste. The result was a gleaming wall surface that needed no whitewashing or repairs.

Subbiah Chettiar points proudly to the gleaming white walls which have not been painted since the house was built. Houses that came up in the early part of this century were more garish and elaborate. Marble granite and paint started adorning houses and somewhere along the line the master craftsmen and their art and the formula for the

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

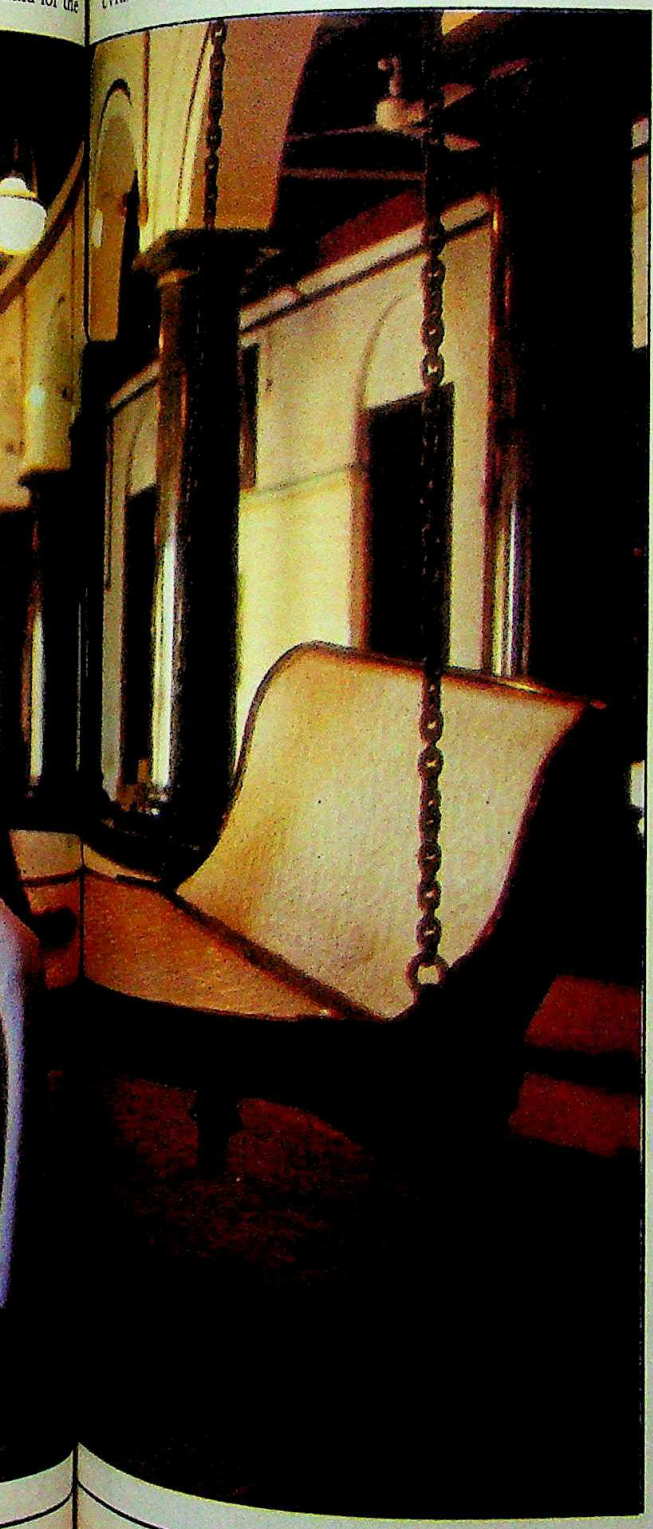
egg-enriched plaster were forgotten. And when the last Chettiar mansion crumbles to dust all this will be lost forever.

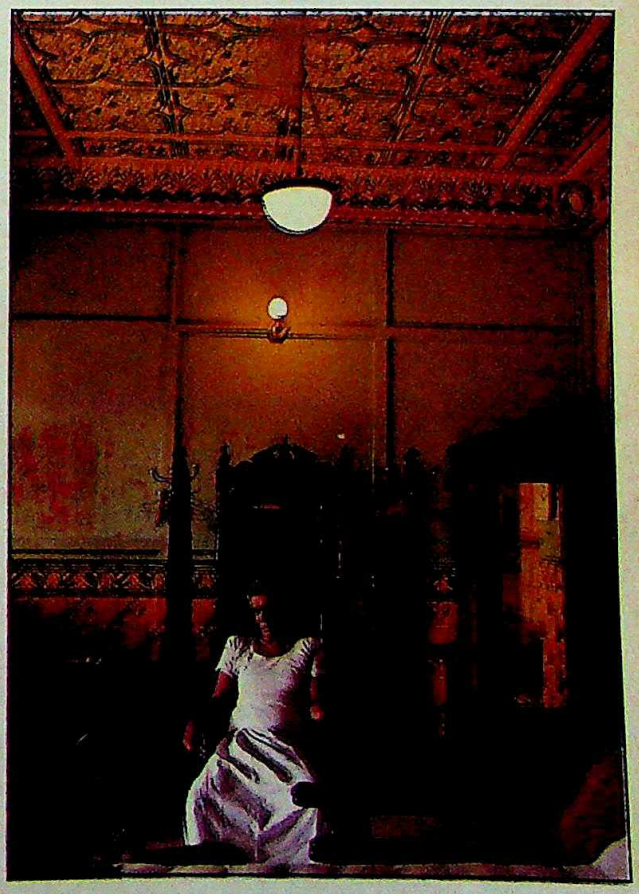
Dealers from as far as Bombay frequently send their scouts to scour Chettinad villages scavenging the decayed mansions for their precious woodwork. At the CVRM house, one of the better known mansions of Chettinad, built more than a 100 years ago by C.V.R.M. Venkatachalam Chettiar, a Bombay dealer offered Rs 26 lakhs for a rosewood ceiling that runs the length of the massive main hall. The family wouldn't sell. The CVRM household is a classic example of the Chettiar predicament. Venkatachalam Chettiar in his heyday was a prosperous money-lender in Burma, where he owned three rice mills. The money he made in Burma was used to build several mansions and a spectacular stone temple tiled with Italian marble, which boasts of a pillar plated entirely with gold. "In those days we had 80 horses and 150 cows, but they're all gone now," says his grandson Annamalai Chettiar, who now maintains the house.

Today the family groans at the enormous expense to repair the house. It costs Rs 1.5 lakh just to repaint the walls. Venkatachalam Chettiar's great grandson Nayayanan Chettiar, a commerce graduate from a Madras college, points to the priceless carved doors adorning his ancestral home (more than 30 of them) and says: "I am sitting on a fortune. I don't have to worry about money for the rest of my life."

THE pillaging antique dealers are prepared to buy just about anything. At one Chettiar household, 50-year-old suits tailored in England, were recently bought at Rs 500 a piece by one dealer. Sturdy iron safes in which Chettiars hoarded their gold are priced at nearly Rs 1 lakh. The state of the Chettiars today is reflected in what an antique dealer in Karaikudi says: "At one time we used to send out men to scout in Chettinad for good buys. Today the Chettiars send their men here asking us to take a look at their stuff."

The archetypal image of the Chettiar is that of a pot-bellied man, forehead smeared with holy ash, bent over currency notes. They always had a way with money. Not just counting it but accumulating it too and then of course living in royal grandeur. The Chettiar heyday may well be past. But the

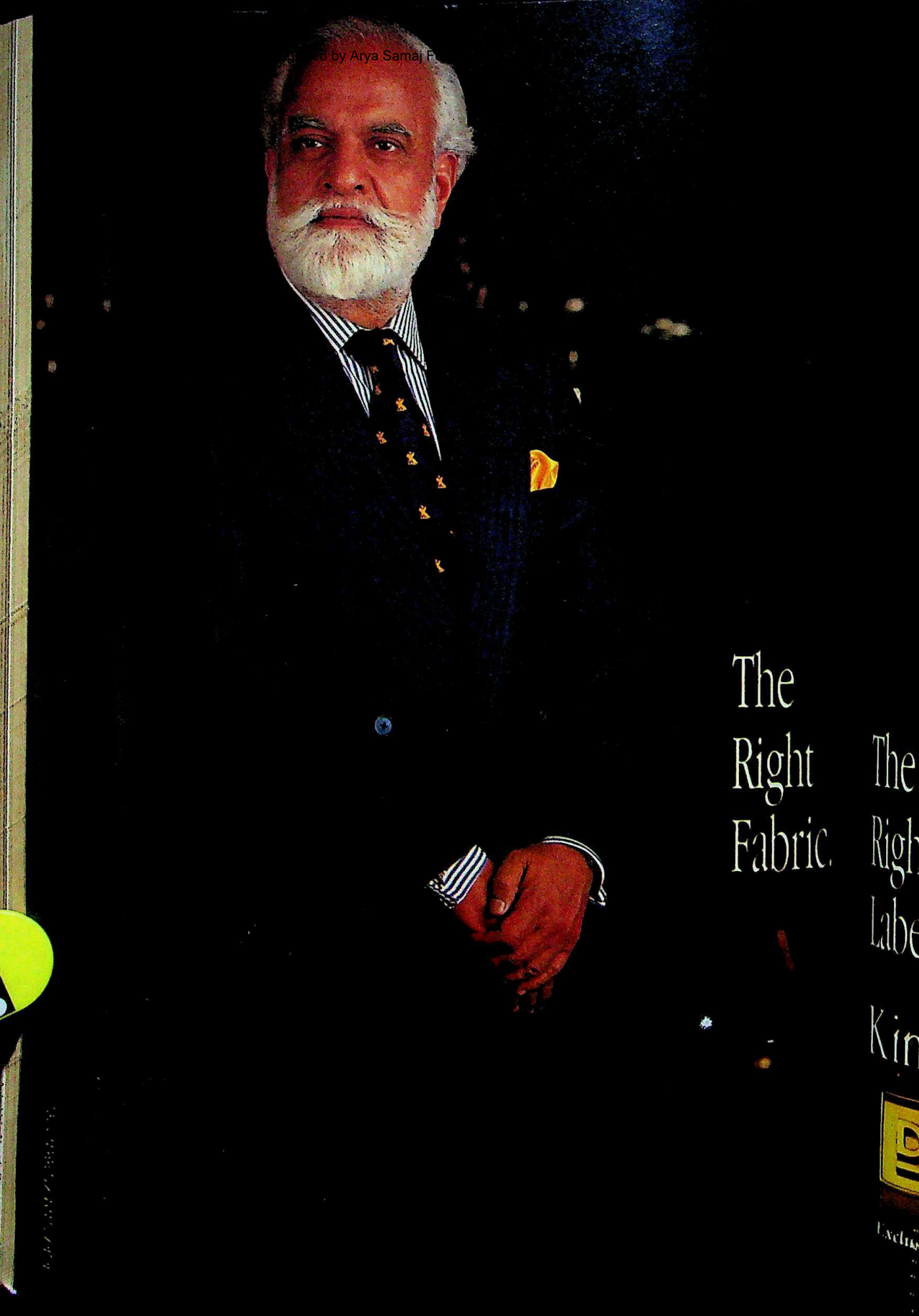




● **The royal interior of a mansion; and (below) rosewood furniture and high ceiling done with Italian marble**

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



Woolmark
(वूलमार्क)

PURE NEW WOOL

INTERNATIONAL SYMBOL
OF PURE NEW WOOL

PURE WOOL SUITINGS
FOR COMFORT AND ELEGANCE

t
ic.

The
Right
Label.

King's Choice

Exclusive Superfine Suitlength

A Product of YM India Ltd

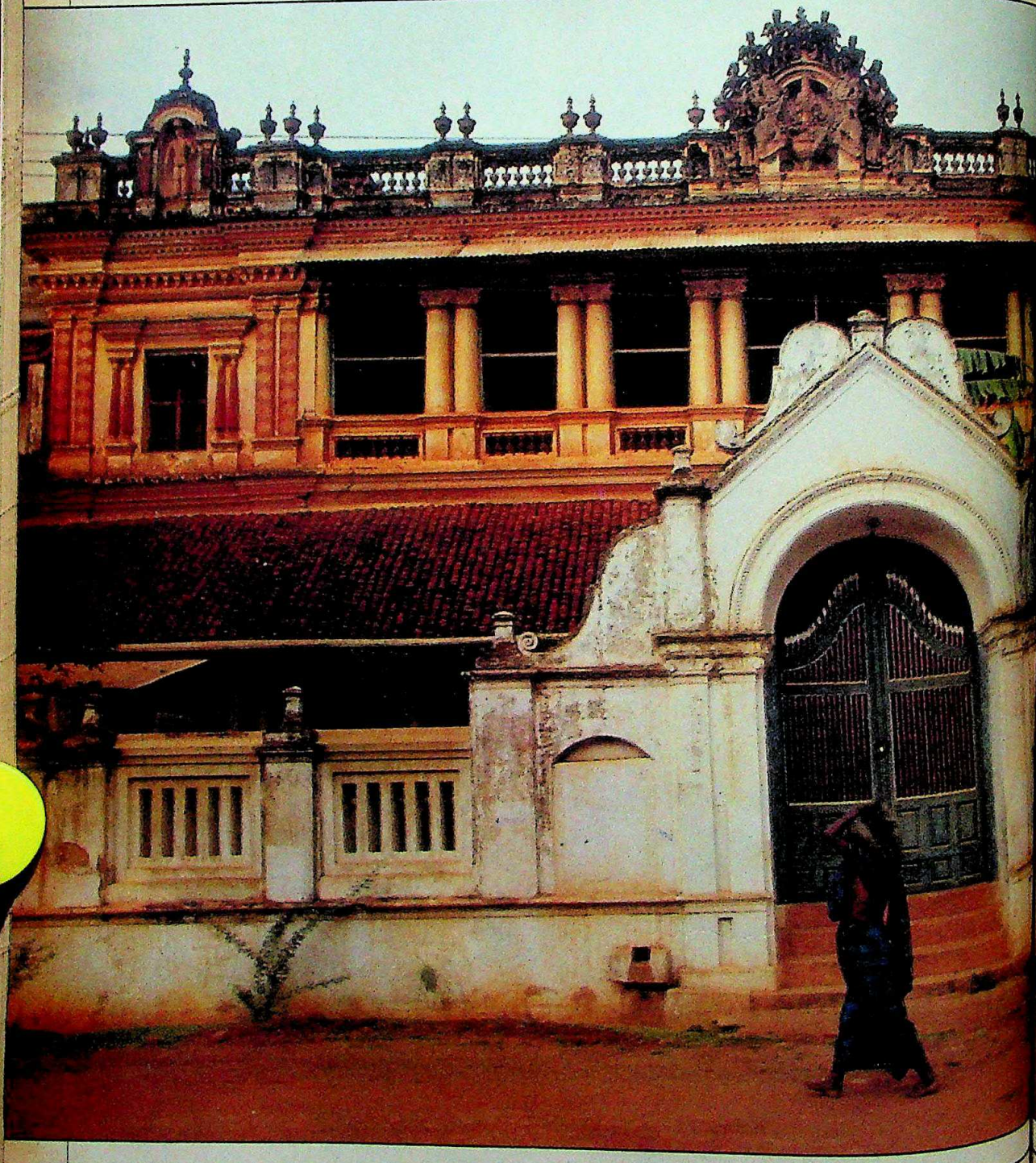
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

inherent traits remain etched in them. Many Chettiars are in the money lending business and own finance companies.

But long before they realised the magic of money the Chettiars were traders in salt and precious stones. Legend goes that they were gem merchants from Satyapuri in Naganad, an unidentified place. Later they lived for many years in Kancheepuram in the 3rd century B.C. till the heavy tax laws of king Pratapan forced them to move into the Chola kingdom. By then, Chettiars had earned fame as traders and the Chola king Manuneedi accorded them the right to place the crown on the Chola king's head.

But it was in Kaveri-Poompattanam, the Chola port city that the Chettiars prospered. Until the reign of Poovanthi Chola whose abduction of a young Chettiar girl led to the mass suicide of the angered community, leaving behind only 1,502 boys who later married from the farming community of Vallalars. And when the Pandya king Somudara Pandya requested the Chola emperor to send some Chettiars to the Pandya kingdom to promote trade, the entire community moved to Onkarkudi (now Karaikudi) and the neighbouring villages in the area, which came to be called Chettinad.

From traders the Chettiars became money-lenders,



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

functioning as intermediaries between the British and the local population in countries like Burma, with which they had trade links. Later when the British offered loans to finance the cultivation of rice, they set up agencies all over Burma. Soon the Chettiars were lending money on their own, and investing too. By the early 20th century, money invested abroad amounted to Rs 200 crore.

The Chettiars were at the pinnacle of glory from the mid-18th century to the end of the Second World War, during which they became an influential community in Burma, Vietnam, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Laos and Indonesia. But the post war period which brought major political changes with it, also brought the curtain down on Chettiar prosperity.

The Chettinad mansions were built as stately fortresses to safeguard the wealth that poured in from abroad. According to historian S. Muthiah, author of *Tales of Old and New Madras* among other books, the Chettinad houses were built entirely by local craftsmen without drawings or plans. Streets in the villages normally cross each other at right angles and each mansion extends from one street to another with the front door opening out into one street and the back door opening out to the parallel street. Within this complex are vast red-tiled courtyards that allow light into the house right through the day. And where the womenfolk used to spend much time drying their hair, cutting vegetables and talking of the jewellery that was proudly displayed at a marriage.

THE ornately carved doors have large keyholes to hold the enormous keys. It used to be a common sight, in Chettinad, to see women walking along the streets with custom made keys that looked like bludgeons peeping out of their baskets. The women, who once were weighed down with dazzling gold ornaments are selling them all now, burdened by hard times. In one such mansion, the traditional *thali*, the married woman's proud possession, weighing 60 sovereigns is up for sale for Rs 3.5 lakh. Says Premila Vijayendra, headmistress of a Chettiar-owned girls school in Nattarasankottai: "Chettiars will rip apart their homes and sell everything for whatever it is worth. But they will not sell their land nor give their homes for rent. They will lock it up and go away."

Most of them have gone. Mainly to Coimbatore and other

● **Unused mansion; *rudraksha* chain inlaid with rubies (below left), a 60-sovereign *thali*; (bottom) carved panel**

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

parts of the
Chettiars hav
astute busine
the state are
belong to Mu
many compa
ments and o
son of M.A. C
in Madras ha
Rs 800 crore

ONE Che
built b
son M.
vants to mai
edifice that lo
Annamal
tion of the Ch
temple in Ma
century was
merchant ca
schools and c
tional institut
signs of Chet
aerodrome in
Chettiar has
Even as th
their own ho
giving way to

(Facing pa
and (below) a

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

parts of the state to become traders or money-lenders. The Chettiars have over the years earned a name for themselves as astute businessmen. And some of the major business houses in the state are owned by Chettiars. TI Cycles and EID Parry belong to Murugappa Chettiar; M.A.M Ramaswamy controls many companies including the Rs 50 crore Chettinad Cements and owns nearly 200 race horses; A.C.A. Muthiah, son of M.A. Chidambaram, after whom the cricket stadium in Madras has been named, has 18 per cent shares in the Rs 800 crore Southern Petrochemicals Industries.

ONE Chettinad mansion that is well maintained is the one built by Annamalai Chettiar, the raja of Chettinad. His son M.A.M. Ramaswamy, has employed a dozen servants to maintain the palace in Kanadukathan, a sprawling edifice that looms over the local temple.

Annamalai Chettiar also contributed towards the renovation of the Chidambaram temple. The well known Meenakshi temple in Madurai which was falling to ruins in the mid 19th century was renovated with the funds provided by a textile merchant called Nagappa Chettiar. Chettinad abounds in schools and colleges founded by Chettiars. While the educational institutions founded by the Chettiars still thrive, other signs of Chettiar munificence have died. For instance, an aerodrome in Chettinad built by S. Annamalai 'aeroplane' Chettiar has been turned into an agricultural farm.

Even as the Chettiars were building schools, temples and their own houses, the foundation of the British empire was giving way towards the middle of the century. There were no longer too many jobs or business opportunities in the colonies and the fountain of Chettiar funds had begun to dry up. The newly independent countries went at the Chettiars with a vengeance and vast land holdings were seized with practically no compensation. Those who had invested wisely in India survived and flourished. For others, plans turned out to be castles in the air. Only their mansions remained on the ground. Says Annamalai Chettiar: "My father never signed a cheque for less than a lakh of rupees. I have never signed one for more than a thousand. That is fate." Others like Subbiah Chettiar are optimistic that the Chettiars will survive.

But Chettinad has hit rock bottom. It has become a district of ghost towns and only 15 per cent of those living there are Chettiars. Only during the occasional Chettiar weddings do the lights glitter and drums reverberate. Otherwise, in the maze of muddy paths there are no bustling tea shops, and very few bejewelled young maidens walking around with brasspots full of water delicately balanced on their heads.

However, not everyone feels that all this signifies sunset days for Chettinad. "Youngsters do leave Chettinad because of lack of jobs. But that happens everywhere," says A.C.A. Muthiah. Some of these proud Chettiar youth might come back and try to relive the old glory. But who will rebuild those mansions and who will carve those icons on rosewood pillars?

Of the 96 prosperous villages in Chettinad, only 78 remain. Even the name of the village, Kanadukathan (a version of *kaal nadu kathan* roughly meaning protectors of one-fourth of the land) which once symbolised Chettiar enterprise and wealth now sounds bitterly ironical. And like troubling memories, the crumbling mansions too seem to mock at the Chettiars.

—KAVITHA SHETTY

(Facing page) Another view of a stately mansion; and (below) antique shop with ravaged relics

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Sure. We were the first Indian company to introduce Japanese machine tools to India. But today, we are the first to transfer CNC technology back to the electronics Goliath.

SURE S

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

1990. Welcome to history.

Electronica becomes the first Indian company to transfer Computer Numerically Controlled machine tool technology to Japan.

The buyer? Mechtro Joban International Co. Ltd., Japan. A highly diversified, ¥5 billion corporation having hard core expertise in packaging, fuel distribution and tourism. The conglomerate signed up with us for our Electric Discharge Machine (EDM) and Computer Numerically Controlled Wirecut EDM designs.

Before the contract was sealed however, our engineers worked at understanding the foreign environment. Consequently the accompanying software is being specially designed to suit Japanese requirements. Just another sure sign of meeting our commitments...

But it all really began in 1973.
In a small shed tucked away in the suburbs of Pune city.

Electronica. A name you've probably never heard before.

That year, award-winning scientists Ravi and Prakash Ratnaparkhi, and Shrikant Pophale founded the Electronica Group with the purpose of manufacturing EDMs in India. Brilliant men, they lent their character to the business: constantly innovating, hard working, highly motivating. Shying away from publicity.

Which is the reason you've probably never heard of us – a lean, dynamic group, an Indian pioneer of mechatronics, a behind-the-scene force that has stepped into the limelight.

Success. It doesn't depend on size. Simply the will to create it – again and again. The facts and figures below speak for themselves.

We were the first to introduce EDMs, Digital Read-Out Systems, CNC Retrofits, CNC Wirecut EDMs and Linear Scales in India.

We are leaders with dominant market shares in EDM, CNC Wirecut EDM, DRO, and CNC Retrofit systems.

We were the first and are today leading exporters of CNC machines.

We have been associated with world leaders for the latest, most relevant technology – Mitsubishi, Mitutoyo, Komatsu, RSF...

We deliver value-for-money. As such, we give service high priority. A separate company handles pre- and after-sales. Our national network spans 11 cities, employing over 60 service engineers.

But behind all our achievements stands a loyal, 5000-strong customer base. It is their belief and trust in our capabilities, that has been our mainstay. Today, Electronica can proudly call itself the single source for both machine tools and electronics.

Sure. We've succeeded magnificently. But we've only just begun....

ELECTRONICA
GROUP OF COMPANIES
Single source for machine & electronics

Elektra Chambers, 44, Mukundnagar, PUNE 411 037.
Tel: 422013 Tlx.: 0145-432 EDM IN Fax : 0212-443532

DROS ■ EDMS ■ CNC WIRECUT EDMS ■ CNC MACHINE TOOLS ■ CNC RETROFITS ■ LINEAR SCALES

SUCCESS.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Say 'good morning' in Frankfurt. Have a good day anywhere in Europe.

On Lufthansa you arrive in Frankfurt early in the morning. At just the right time to begin your day. Or catch your connecting flight to any major city in Europe or beyond. It's all part of Lufthansa's commitment to help you meet your growing business commitments. Swiftly, relaxed and on time.

Lufthansa

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

KERALA

Welcome the Capitalist

In a radical change of attitude, the communist-led Government of Kerala is reining in militant trade unions and going all out to lure industrialists.

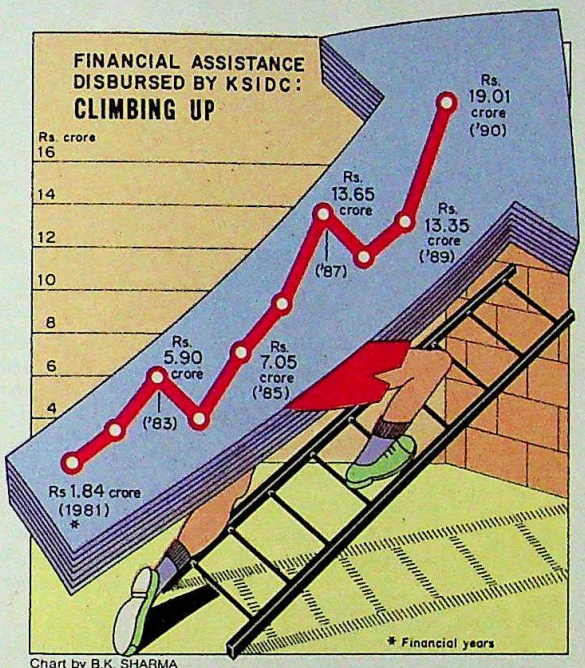


Chart by B.K. SHARMA

IN the Kerala communist's lexicon, the word "industrialist" was, until recently, just a polite way of saying "capitalist pig". A monstrous exploiter of labour, the industrialist was someone who had to be stoutly resisted and continually squeezed for higher wages and benefits. Not anymore. Capitalism is no longer a dirty word. As in West Bengal, there is a perceptible change in the communist attitude towards businessmen and big business houses. The ruling CPI(M)-led Left Democratic Front (LDF) is rolling out the red carpet for industrialists, luring them in with incentives and, most important of all, reining in the state's militant trade unions. The results are already showing. After what seems like ages, major industrial houses like the Tatas and the Birlas are considering investing in various projects in the state.

Operation Capitalist is on in full swing. Two months ago, Chief Minister E.K. Nayanar and high-profile Industry Minister K.R. Gowriamma hotfooted it to the United States to persuade non-resident Malayalees to invest in the state. The Government is also thinking of establishing a Kerala-NRI Growth Fund, which would use investments by NRIs to promote industries, while guaranteeing investors a minimum return.

Simultaneously, a move is on to give the state a new image and convince investors that not all Malayalees are trade unionists and that not every unit closes down due to labour militancy. "Entrepreneurs investing in Kerala must feel welcome and convinced that the Government is keen that they do well," says Gowriamma.

That new attitude is born of years of hard experience. The state's endemic strikes, besides scaring private entrepreneurs away, had also discouraged the Centre from setting up public sector units there. In 1970, for example, the Central investment for industrial growth in Kerala was Rs 116 crore while for Maharashtra it was Rs 120 crore. In 1988, those figures had changed dramatically. While Maharashtra got Rs 13,936 crore, Kerala got only Rs 1,307 crore. Now, with the new labour climate and a friendly government at the Centre, the state is hopeful of increased investment.

In their campaign to force trade unions to tone down their strident demands and woo private enterprise, Nayanar and Gowriamma have the blessings of the CPI(M). Both have been categorical that labour must be more responsible and not raise unrealistic demands. The CPI(M) is now talking in terms of a new work culture whose corner stones are discipline, productivity and industrial peace. Says O. Bharatan, CPI(M) MLA and trade union leader: "Trade unions must start thinking how best industry can be nursed and nurtured." Gowriamma insists that the situation has already changed for the better: "The state's labour force is no more interested in strikes. It is just a few greedy trade union leaders with vested interests who are giving the state a bad name."

As industry minister, it is she who leads the state's efforts to woo industrialists. Last month, she interrupted an important meeting just to meet Vinod Sahai, an NRI who is investing Rs 8.8 crore in an export-oriented unit to manufacture nylon mono filament yarn in the Cochin Export Processing Zone (CEPZ). She now makes it a practice to regularly meet even small entrepreneurs, discuss their needs and assure them of all possible help and cooperation.

Earlier this year, the Government announced a package of incentives for industry:

- A capital subsidy of 5 per cent subject to a maximum of Rs 3 lakh for new industries set up in newly identified thrust areas like rubber, electronics, light engineering and food processing.
- Sales tax exemption for large and medium units set up after April 1989.
- Exemption from power cuts for new industrial units.
- Investment subsidy of 5 per cent.
- Exemption of purchase tax on rubber bought as raw material for industries within the state.

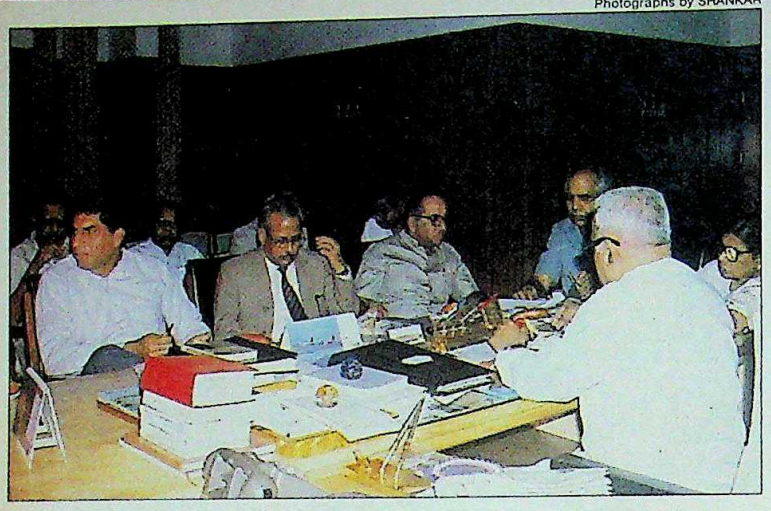
Emulating Gujarat, the state has now decided to set up an industrial promotion and coordination bureau to help entrepreneurs draw up project profiles, procure licences, loans and so forth. For the Malayalee with money to invest, but not the expertise to set up industry, such help is invaluable. That there is plenty of money to invest in the state is evident from the fact that the Cochin Stock Exchange has emerged as India's fastest growing exchange.

The state Government is itself actively helping to launch industrial projects. In the three years since it assumed office, as many as 23,356 industrial units have been set up purely

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Photographs by SHANKAR



Ratan Tata (left) with Nayanar (right): Marxists and capitalists find they have a lot to gain by joining hands

due to government initiative, an all-time record. Also, 46 projects assisted by the Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation (KSIDC), involving a total capital outlay of Rs 80 crore, are under implementation. Quite a record, considering the fact that in the 29 years before, the KSIDC assisted a total of only 164 units. Also, in the past four months, KSIDC has signed memoranda of understanding with 16 entrepreneurs for projects involving a capital outlay of Rs 70 crore. On the infrastructural front too, there's been progress. For instance, since assuming power, the Government has cleared over 11,000 pending electrical connections for industrial units.

Another example of the Government's new determination is the Cochin export zone. Intended to be a shining example of industry in the state, the CEPZ never really took off, plagued as it was by chronic labour disputes and raw material shortages. Now, the Government has set up a high-powered committee to iron out problems, and unions have been told to fall in line.

Hand in hand with its attempts to attract investment and set up new industries, the Government has also gone all out to revive scores of sick units. Among them were numerous state-owned units like Kerala Ceramics and Kerala Textile Corporation, now made profitable by imaginative management. United Electrical Industries, also state-owned, was producing just around 10,000 electrical meters a year, barely a third of its installed capacity. With the active participation of workers, the unit produces over 30,000 meters and has touched 100 per cent capacity utilisation.

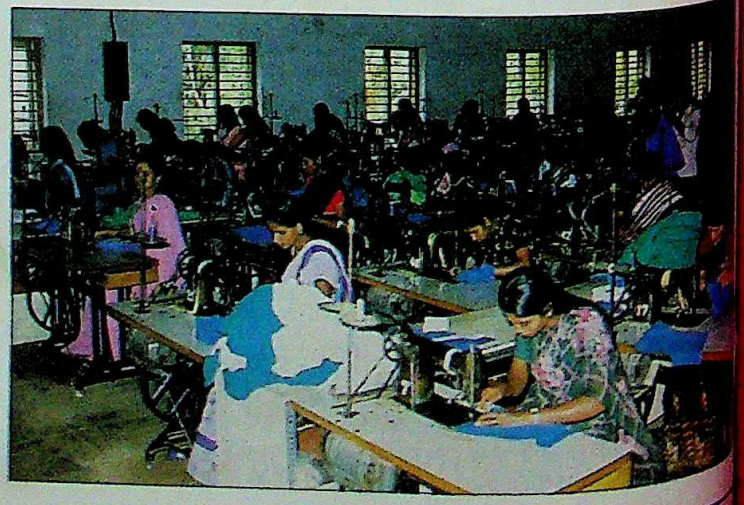
In the past three years, the Nayanar Government has also revived 1,220 small-scale units, a remarkable feat considering that the previous Congress(I) led United Democratic Front government managed to revive just 171 units in its five-year term. As an encouragement to restart sick units have been given a moratorium of six months for payment of arrears of electricity bills. As many as 235 out of 252 cashew factories have started working. R. Ganapati, chairman of the Board of Industrial Finance and Reconstruction, the country's corporate doctor, has hailed Kerala's efforts to revive and encourage industry. When the LDF took over three years ago, only 15 of the 50 units under the Industry Department were making profits. Today, the figure has risen to 26, with many units making profits for the first time in a decade.

Also, the KSIDC and profitable Central public sector undertakings like Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd, Hindustan Organic Chemicals and Cochin Refineries Ltd have formed an informal consortium. The aim is to speed up the expansion, diversification and modernisation projects of existing units; projects worth around Rs 4,000 crore are in the pipeline.

In the private sector, the Birlas have shown interest in investing around Rs 600 crore in an aluminium factory based on bauxite deposits in Cannanore and a ceramic unit based on deposits of some of the finest china clay found in the country at Kasargod. The Govern-

K.R. GOWRIAMMA
Industry Minister

"Entrepreneurs investing in Kerala must feel convinced the Government is keen that they do well."



Garments factory: thanks to a new maturity on the part of trade unions, businessmen are giving Kerala a second look

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

IT'S BLUE
IT'S RED
IT'S GREEN
IT'S WHITE
IT'S COLOURED

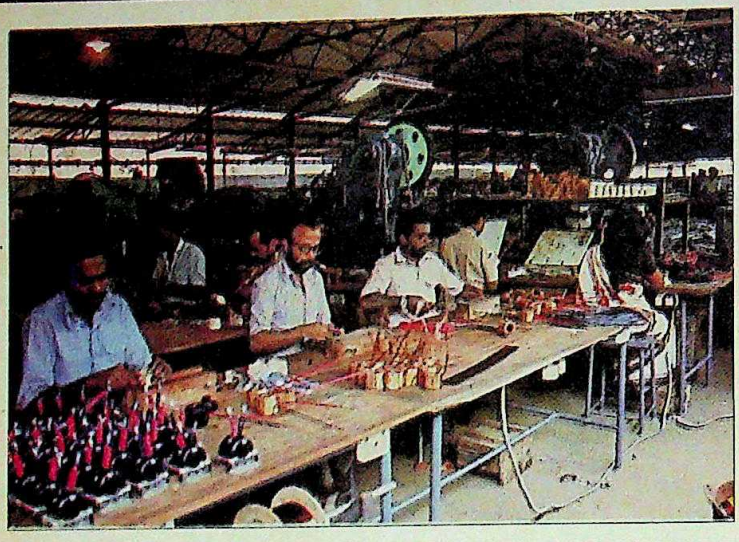
and also pregalvanised.
Its corrosion proof
to make an excellent roof.
It is far better
than Asbestos,
and can make Aluminium
lose its class.
Yet, if you choose, it could
look like wood.
In furnitures and cabinets,
it will beat by far all
laminates.
It will be used in Room interiors,
Washing machines & Refrigerators.
Automobiles and Buses will
discover it first.
In Railway Coaches it'll find
a berth.

But what is this so special, what on earth?

ISPAT

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



Transformer assembling factory: an industrial revival is on the cards if the current phase goes on

ment will react to the Birla offer as soon as the KSIDC completes a survey on how best the bauxite deposits can be utilised for industrial purposes. One problem, however, is that the aluminium industry is a power-intensive one, and Kerala is chronically short of power.

The Tatas have shown willingness to invest upward of Rs 342 crore to expand and modernise the state-owned Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd (KMML), one of only two titanium dioxide units in the country. Gowriamma was thrilled because this would finally help to pull (KMML) out of the red; the company has accumulated losses of over Rs 100 crore. But despite her enthusiasm, Gowriamma has not been able to clear the proposal because her party's labour wing does not view kindly the prospect of the Tatas taking over the unit. Nevertheless, the Government cannot let the proposal flounder since both M. Karunanidhi, chief minister of Tamil Nadu, and Biju Patnaik, chief minister of Orissa, are trying to get the Tatas to start titanium dioxide projects in their states. If that happens, the current monopoly of KMML would end and the unit would be doomed.

But the titanium project isn't the only one under consideration by the Tatas. When Ratan Tata visited Trivandrum earlier this year to assess the industrial climate, he gave the green signal to a telecommunication equipment unit in Cannanore to be set up jointly with Keltron.

Besides, the Thapars have shown interest in setting up units producing titanium and pigments. The new atmosphere is even attracting non-Malayalee NRIs. One example is Arun Govil from the US who is investing Rs 29 crore to produce activated carbon from coconut shells. The Government is also examining proposals by hi-tech consumer durable manufacturers like Videocon and Onida to set up new units.

V. RAMACHANDRAN
Chairman, KSIDC

"There is no reason why a state with such potential should remain industrially backward."

HAVING identified electronics as a thrust area in industrial development the stage is being set for Kerala to emerge as a hi-tech centre in south India. The Government envisages setting up three electronic technology parks. The first of them, to be set up on a 100-acre complex in Trivandrum at a cost of Rs 6 crore, is expected to become operational this year. The other two will be set up in Cochin and Calicut by next year. Says K.P.P. Nambiar, Kerala's industrial adviser: "The '90s is the decade of computers and software. If Kerala can capture this opportunity now, we will be in a strong position to take on the challenges of the 21st century." The parks are expected to act as a catalyst for technical entrepreneurs and high technology companies to set up industries in the state.

The frenetic activity and the assiduous wooing do not mean that businessmen have been entirely rid of their fears. Says P. Sethuram, secretary, Cochin Chamber of Commerce: "Industry is cautiously watching the new efforts to bring in private investment. But sceptics still wonder whether the Marxist-controlled Government will have the political will to encourage a market-oriented economic system." F.S. Chhajerh, an entrepreneur in Thodupuzha dealing in rubberised coir, does see a positive change in attitude towards industry but emphasises that unless a basic infrastructure for industry is set up and single window clearances actually operated, all this would remain mere political statements.

Those fears are legitimate. The shortage of power, for instance, is a serious obstacle to the setting up of power-intensive industries. Nayanar is keen on setting up a nuclear power plant but is meeting stiff resistance from environmentalists. But Industry Secretary Mohanachandran says that should not be cause for worry since most of the projects that the state is planning are not power-based.

Another problem is the state's indecision on many projects. The Tatas' titanium proposal is one on which the Government is still dithering. Another is an offer by the Taj group to set up a chain of hotels, motels, forest lodges and a beach resort involving an investment of Rs 100 crore.

All serious glitches. Still, there's no doubting that perestroika has come at last to Kerala. As yet it's only a gentle breeze but it's already managed to shake a few icons, the most important being the sacrosanct trade unions. And as the wind gathers speed, what was hitherto the unthinkable could happen: the first state in the world to elect a communist government may well become a capitalist paradise.

—RAMESH MENON

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

DISCOVER THE SHADES OF STEEL THE WAY THE WORLD HAS DONE

Presenting India's First Colour Coated Steel for wide ranging Applications

The ready to use steel

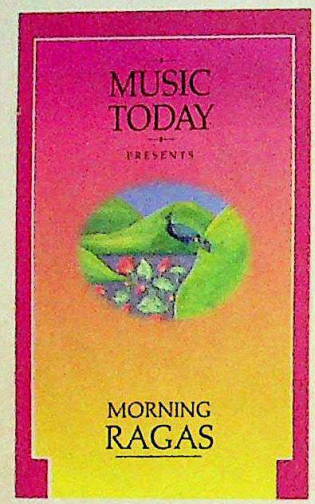
NIPPON DENRO ISPAT LTD.

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

INDIA TOD MUSIC TODAY. RAGA

A unique musical journey through the colours of the day and night. On 16 one-hour c for pure sound fidelity. And d

THE FINEST IN MUSIC

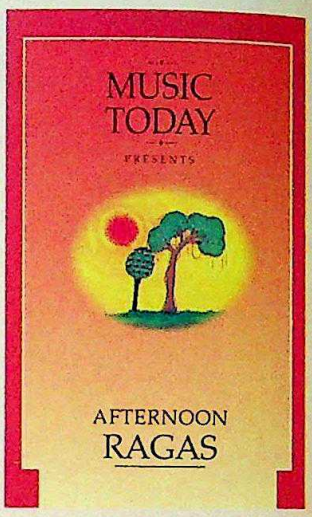


Volume 1 (Code A90001)
LALIT - *Rajan & Sajan Mishra* (Vocal)
BHAIRAV - *Shahid Parvez* (Sitar)
AHIR BHAIRAV - *Shruti Sadolikar* (Vocal)

Volume 2 (Code A90002)
MIAN KI TODI - *Amjad Ali Khan* (Sarod)
BHATIYAR - *Pandit Jasraj* (Vocal)
VIBHAS - *Shruti Sadolikar* (Vocal)

Volume 3 (Code A90003)
JAUNPURI - *Padma Talwalkar* (Vocal)
BILASKHANI TODI - *Amjad Ali Khan* (Sarod)
DESI TODI - *Hariprasad Chaurasia* (Flute)

Volume 4 (Code A90004)
KUKUBH BILAWAL - *Mallikarjun Mansur* (Vocal)
DESHKAR - *Shahid Parvez* (Sitar)
BHAIRAVI - *Padma Talwalkar* (Vocal)



Volume 1 (Code A90005)
SHUDDH SARANG - *Amjad Ali Khan* (Sarod)
SUGHRAI - *Mallikarjun Mansur* (Vocal)
GAUD SARANG - *Padma Talwalkar* (Vocal)

Volume 2 (Code A90006)
BRINDABANI SARANG - *Hariprasad Chaurasia* (Flute)
MADHMAD SARANG - *Pandit Jasraj* (Vocal)
DHANI - *Shahid Parvez* (Sitar)

Volume 3 (Code A90007)
BHIMPALASI - *Mallikarjun Mansur* (Vocal)
PATDEEP - *Shruti Sadolikar* (Vocal)
MAND - *Shahid Parvez* (Sitar)

Volume 4 (Code A90008)
MULTANI - *Rajan & Sajan Mishra* (Vocal)
MADHUVANTI - *Hariprasad Chaurasia* (Flute)
PILU - *Amjad Ali Khan* (Sarod)

PRICE (Including taxes, packing and forwarding)

One cassette	Rs. 45	
Any two cassettes	Rs. 90	
Any three cassettes	Rs. 125	**Saving of over 7% on the single cassette rate.**
Any four cassettes or more	@ Rs. 40 per cassette	**Saving of over 11% on the single cassette rate.**

SPECIAL OFFERS

A FREE INDIA TODAY REGULAR SIZE ADDRESS BOOK. A one time single order of 16 MUSIC TODAY cassettes entitles you to a free regular size INDIA TODAY ADDRESS BOOK costing Rs. 85.

A FREE INDIA TODAY COMPACT ADDRESS BOOK. A one time single order of 8 to 15 MUSIC TODAY cassettes entitles you to a free compact INDIA TODAY ADDRESS BOOK costing Rs. 50.

REGULAR **FREE** COMPACT

PLEASE NOTE

* Add Rs. 5 for outstation cheques (i.e. cheques outside Delhi)
* Cheques/Demand Drafts payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras Delhi must be MICR only.
* For M.O. please clearly indicate the code number and quantity cassettes ordered on the M.O. form as well as the receipt.
* **Cassettes will be home delivered by Registered Post/Courier**
* Please allow a lead time of 3-4 weeks for delivery.
* For gift instructions please give recipient's name and address separate sheet.
* Please make payments favouring LIVING MEDIA INDIA LTD mail to MUSIC TODAY, P.O. BOX 29, NEW DELHI 110 001.
* **If the attached order form is missing, please send your order alongwith name, address and remittance to MUSIC TODAY P.O. Box 29, New Delhi 110 001.**

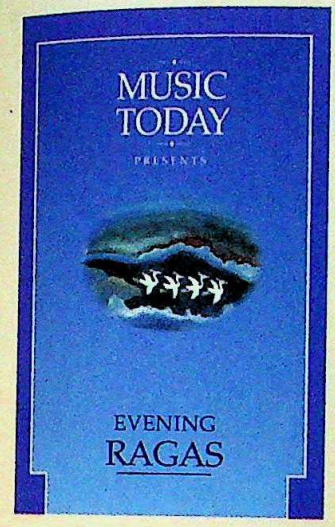
Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

RESENTS
ROM DAWN TO NIGHT

recorded and interpreted afresh by a stunning galaxy of musicians. Digitally mastered
r doorstep by mail or courier.

R LISTENING PLEASURE

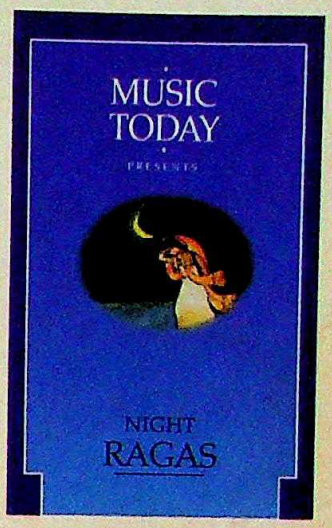


Volume 1 (Code A90009)
MARWA - *Pandit Jasraj* (Vocal)
SHREE - *Shruti Sadolikar* (Vocal)
HAMSADHWANI - *Shahid Parvez* (Sitar)

Volume 2 (Code A90010)
POORIYA - *Rajan & Sajan Mishra* (Vocal)
SHYAM KALYAN - *Amjad Ali Khan* (Sarod)
NAND - *Mallikarjun Mansur* (Vocal)

Volume 3 (Code A90011)
SHUDDH KALYAN - *Padma Talwalkar* (Vocal)
MANJH KHAMMAJ - *Hariprasad Chaurasia* (Flute)
DURGA - *Rajan & Sajan Mishra* (Vocal)

Volume 4 (Code A90012)
YAMAN - *Shahid Parvez* (Sitar)
SHANKARA - *Pandit Jasraj* (Vocal)
MISHRA GHARA - *Shruti Sadolikar* (Vocal)



Volume 1 (Code A90013)
SHUDDH NAT - *Mallikarjun Mansur* (Vocal)
KEDAR - *Padma Talwalkar* (Vocal)
JHINJHOTI - *Hariprasad Chaurasia* (Flute)

Volume 2 (Code A90014)
BAGESHWARI - *Pandit Jasraj* (Vocal)
HAMIR - *Padma Talwalkar* (Vocal)
TILAK KAMOD - *Shahid Parvez* (Sitar)

Volume 3 (Code A90015)
MALKAUS - *Hariprasad Chaurasia* (Flute)
MARU BIHAG - *Shruti Sadolikar* (Vocal)
JAIJAIWANTI - *Rajan & Sajan Mishra* (Vocal)

Volume 4 (Code A90016)
NAIKI KANHRA - *Shruti Sadolikar* (Vocal)
DES - *Pandit Jasraj* (Vocal)
DARBARI - *Amjad Ali Khan* (Sarod)

ORDER FORM

No. of Cassettes	Product Code	No. of Cassettes
_____	A 90009	_____
_____	A 90010	_____
_____	A 90011	_____
_____	A 90012	_____
_____	A 90013	_____
_____	A 90014	_____
_____	A 90015	_____
_____	A 90016	_____

Yes, I would like to place my order for **MUSIC TODAY** cassettes as per details given below. I enclose my crossed cheque/Demand Draft/Copy of Money Order receipt for Rs. _____ (add Rs. 5 for outstation cheques i.e., outside Delhi) payable to **LIVING MEDIA INDIA LTD.**

TOTAL NO. OF CASSETTES ORDERED _____

TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE Rs. _____

Please send my cassettes to

Name _____

Address _____

_____

_____ Pin _____

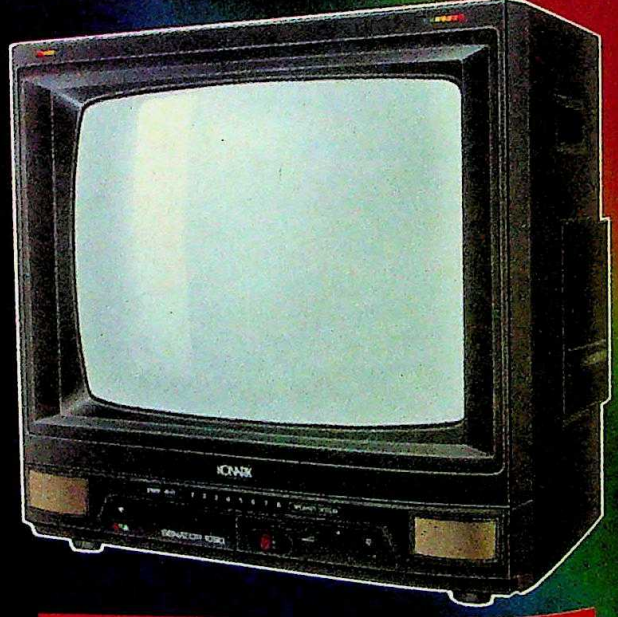
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

The name that spells

CLASS

is the name
your home can trust.
KONARK.



It's festival time again. A time for rejoicing. A time for fun. The ideal time to give your near and dear ones something they've always wanted for years. A really super-class, trouble-free TV set.

Konark is your solution to a highly difficult choice. Hi-tech features and perfect performance. Something for the family to share. Over years and years of happy viewing pleasure.

KONARK TV

The image of hi-tech quality

KONARK TELEVISION LIMITED (A Govt. of Orissa Enterprise)
'ELECTRONICS BHAWAN', Rasulgarh, Bhubaneswar 751 010.

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

OIL

The Third Shock

Iraq's annexation of Kuwait has resulted in oil prices jumping by almost 60 per cent in two months and given issues relating to energy conservation a new urgency.

FUEL pumps won't run dry. Not even if blood is spilt on the sands of the Middle East. But fuel prices may become uncomfortably high. Queues for petrol and diesel will lengthen. Tempers of kerosene consumers outside ration shops will become increasingly frayed. It's hardly the end of the world, only an unwelcome visitor at the doorstep: the third oil shock has arrived.

For decades, energy experts have argued that India cannot continue along its fuellish path of development. The crunch came twice in 1973-74 and 1979-80 when world oil prices skyrocketed. Many developed countries managed to reduce their oil consumption. But not India. The discovery of Bombay High—which helped India cut dependence on imported crude from nearly 70 per cent in the early-'80s to 30 per cent by the middle of the last decade—bred complacency.

The pendulum then started swinging the other way. But it was only with the Gulf imbroglio and the consequent jump in oil prices by almost 60 per cent in two months that a sense of urgency hit the country. Petroleum Minister M.S. Gurupadaswamy is unwilling to quantify the impact of the rise in the oil import bill. "There are too many imponderables," he says helplessly.

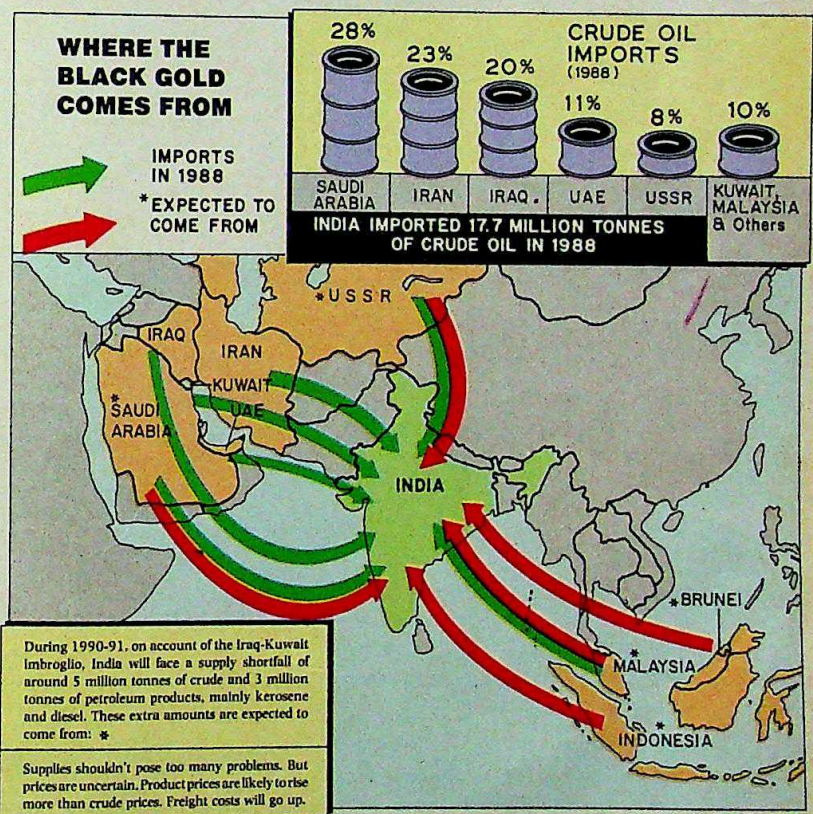
What's not in doubt is that the economy will be hit hard. But how hard? Like a sledgehammer? Or will the nation stagger to its feet just before the count-down is over? Optimistic government officials hope that the extra outgo on oil imports will be contained at around Rs 1,600 crore a year. But if there's a war, the import bill may well shoot up to Rs 4,000 crore, sending shock waves through the economy by hiking the budget deficit and sharply increasing inflation (*see boxes*). Unlike previous years, the Government now cannot transfer surplus funds generated by the Oil Coordination Committee (OCC) to reduce the deficit. Such funds amounted to several thousand crore rupees in the last few years.

But in certain respects, India has been better placed than some other oil-importing developing countries. Reason: oil imports as a percentage of total export earnings has come down from nearly 80 per cent in the early-'80s to barely 20 per cent today. Moreover, the high agricultural output expected this year will to an extent compensate for the rise in costs of industrial production. Still, it will hardly mute the multiplier impact of higher oil prices on the consumer. All sectors of the economy will be adversely affected to a lesser or greater degree. Particular segments will slow down, as for example automobile manufacturers and the transportation. "It may not be a good year for us," says Rahul Bajaj who heads the country's largest two-and three-wheeler company.

Similarly, the petrochemicals industry will be squeezed on account of the hike in the prices of imported items like naphtha, caprolactam and paraxylene. This will increase the costs of a range of items like tyre-cord, synthetic yarn and fabrics.

"People laughed at us when we initiated austerity measures to curb oil consumption more than a month before the Gulf crisis," says Finance Minister Madhu Dandavate. "But subsequent events proved we were on the right track." Whether these measures will actually reduce consumption is a moot point, but the Government had no choice in the matter.

Thankfully, the crisis has helped focus attention on the need to conserve fuel. It will also spur inter-fuel substitution efforts, like converting coal to gas and gas into middle distillates like kerosene and diesel. If world oil prices cross the $30 mark, it may even become viable to commercially exploit the large reserves of oil-bearing shales



Map by B.K. SHARMA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Your first strategic move for 199

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

INDIA TODAY
YEAR BOOK 1991
Code: IT 101
Size: 20.9 x 27.9 cm
Price: Rs 275

SLIMLINE
DIARY 1991
Code: IT 102
Size: 8.2 x 17.
Price: Rs 70

POCKET DAIRY 1991
Code IT 103
Size: 7.6 x 12.0 cm
Price: Rs. 45

INDIA TODAY YEARBOOK 1991
Code: 201
Size: 20.9 x 27.9 cm
Price: Rs. 475

INDIA TODAY DIARIES

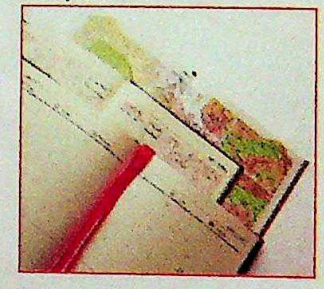
The 1991 India Today diary set comes in a comprehensive range of a yearbook and compact diaries. Each diary is attractively produced combining excellence with efficiency, style with substance. Gold leaf embossing, gilt-edged pages, handy ribbon markers are just a few of the exclusive features of these diaries.

INDIA TODAY YEARBOOK 1991

The India Yearbook helps you to manage your time effectively and is much more than just a desk diary – it is a carefully selected compendium of information compiled in sections. The dairy section is laid out in an easy-to-read format.

Slimline and Pocket Diaries

The Slimline diary is designed for your jacket or briefcase while the Pocket diary tucks away neatly into your pocket. Incredibly compact and convenient, yet packed with all the features you need, including quick information sections on hotels and essential ISD/STD codes. With these compact diaries you can now carry all the day-to-day information you need with you.



PERSONALIZE THESE BEAUTIFUL DIARIES

Whether you are ordering the diaries as a set or as singles, for yourself or as a gift for someone, you can add style and personalize them with gold leaf embossing of upto three initials and a company logo (logo embossing offered on the Yearbook), at a nominal charge.

HAND-CRAFTED ELEGANCE IN REAL LEATHER

Limited Edition Premium Diaries

The 1991 Yearbook, Slimline and Pocket diaries have also been produced in rich brown real leather. Gold embossing of upto three initials on all these premium diaries and on the leather book-mark accompanying the Yearbook is offered free of cost. Gold embossing of a company logo is available only on the Yearbook at a nominal cost.

SLIMLINE
DIARY 1991
Code: 202
Size: 8.2 x 17.
Price: Rs. 135

POCKET DIARY 1991
Code: 203
Size: 7.6 x 12.0 cm
Price: Rs. 90

Make your selection now and send in your order before 30th October 1990 for a special pre-publication discount of about 15%. If the order form has been used mail your enquiry/order to Living Media India Ltd., P B No 29, New Delhi 110001. Please add Rs. 10 for gold embossing of each set of 3 initials per diary

ORDER FORM 1991

Product Code	Product Details	Regular Price (Rs)	Spl. Price For Orders Recd. Before Sept 15, 1990 (Rs)	Quantity Ordered	Total Amount (Rs)
IT 101	India Today Yearbook 1991 (Regular)	275	235	____	____
IT 102	India Today Slimline Diary (Regular)	70	60	____	____
IT 103	India Today Pocket Diary (Regular)	45	38	____	____
IT 201	India Today Yearbook 1991 (Leather)	475	405	____	____
IT 202	India Today Slimline Diary (Leather)	135	115	____	____
IT 203	India Today Pocket Diary (Leather)	90	77	____	____

- Total — Rs. ____
- Extra for gold embossing of Initials on the regular diaries @ Rs. 10 per unit per diary (This facility is free of charge for the premium leather diaries) Please give maximum of 3 initials per diary ordered on a separate sheet — Rs. ____
- Company logo (facility offered only for the yearbooks viz product codes IT 101 and IT 201) @ Rs. 15 per logo per diary — Rs ____
- Add Rs 5 for outstation cheques (i.e. cheques outside Delhi) — Rs. ____

Grand Total — Rs. ____

I enclose a crossed Cheque/DD for Rs. _____ (add Rs. 5/- for outstation cheques i.e. outside Delhi) payable to 'Living Media India Ltd'.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

_____

Order Now! Discount offer extended upto 30th Oct 1990

Please note:

- Cheques/drafts payable at Bombay, Madras, Calcutta and Delhi must be MICR only.
- Diaries will be home delivered by Registered Post/Courier. Deliveries will commence by early November and barring unforeseen circumstances will be completed by end December 1990.
- For gift instructions, please give recipient's name and address alongwith details for embossing initials on a separate sheet.
- Facility for gold embossing company logo is offered only for Yearbooks (Product codes IT 101 and IT 201). Minimum order is 25 diaries per logo. Maximum area of logo is 6 sq cms. Artworks or positives will need to be supplied.

Remittance should be drawn in favour of Living Media India Ltd. and mailed alongwith your name, address and the completed order form to Living Media India Ltd., P B No. 29. New Delhi 110 001

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

and coals in the North-east.

"We are used to shortages—we'll manage somehow," says a secretary to the Union Government. The question is: How well?

ENERGY SCENE

Black gold is precious. And exhaustible. India seems to be blissfully unaware of this simple reality.

The share of oil in the total consumption of primary sources of energy in the country has been around 30 per cent in recent times. But because oil is more convenient to use and so far easily available, it is used as a 'swing' fuel to replace other energy sources.

The country's existing crude oil reserves are around 0.73 billion tonnes, enough for about two decades. So dependence on oil has to be reduced.

THERMAL POWER

One obvious way is to increase coal production. India has over 170 billion tonnes of coal reserves which should last more than 12 centuries at the current rate of consumption though most of it is of inferior quality. Still, this problem can be tackled. Countries like the USSR and Greece burn coal inferior to that used in Indian power plants. But because of erratic supplies, power plants guzzle oil. Improving plant load factor, now just 55 per cent, is a way out.

HYDRO POWER

Hydro-electric projects account for nearly 30 per cent of India's installed power capacity. But of the identified hydel potential of 84,000 MW, less than 18 per cent has been used so far. Cost and time over-runs, due to inter-state water disputes, are one cause.

These days, hydel projects have been targeted for attack by environmentalists agitated by the destruction of forests and displacement of people that these dams entail. Small hydel projects—with a potential of 3,000 MW—are an answer. But there's been little progress in the 700 schemes found techno-economically feasible.

Chart by B.K. SHARMA

THE THIRD WAVE

	GROSS IMPORTS IN 1989-90		THE GOVERNMENT HAS BUDGETED FOR IMPORTS IN 1990-91*	
	QUANTITY million tonnes	VALUE Rs. crore	QUANTITY million tonnes	VALUE Rs. crore
CRUDE OIL	19.5	4,100	19.5	4,100
PETROLEUM PRODUCTS	6.5	2,300	5.5	2,300
TOTAL	26.0	6,400	25.0	6,400

Between 1988-89 and 1989-90, the oil import bill went up by nearly 50 per cent, the highest since the two shocks of 1973-74 (234 per cent) and 1979-80 (92 per cent). In this period, petrol consumption increased by nearly 15 per cent—this is the steepest rise ever.

*This assumed (a) average crude import price of $17.5/barrel @ $1 = Rs 17; (b) consumption will be curtailed by 1-2 per cent.

Crystal Gazing

OPTIMISTIC SCENARIO
Gulf crisis blows over in six months

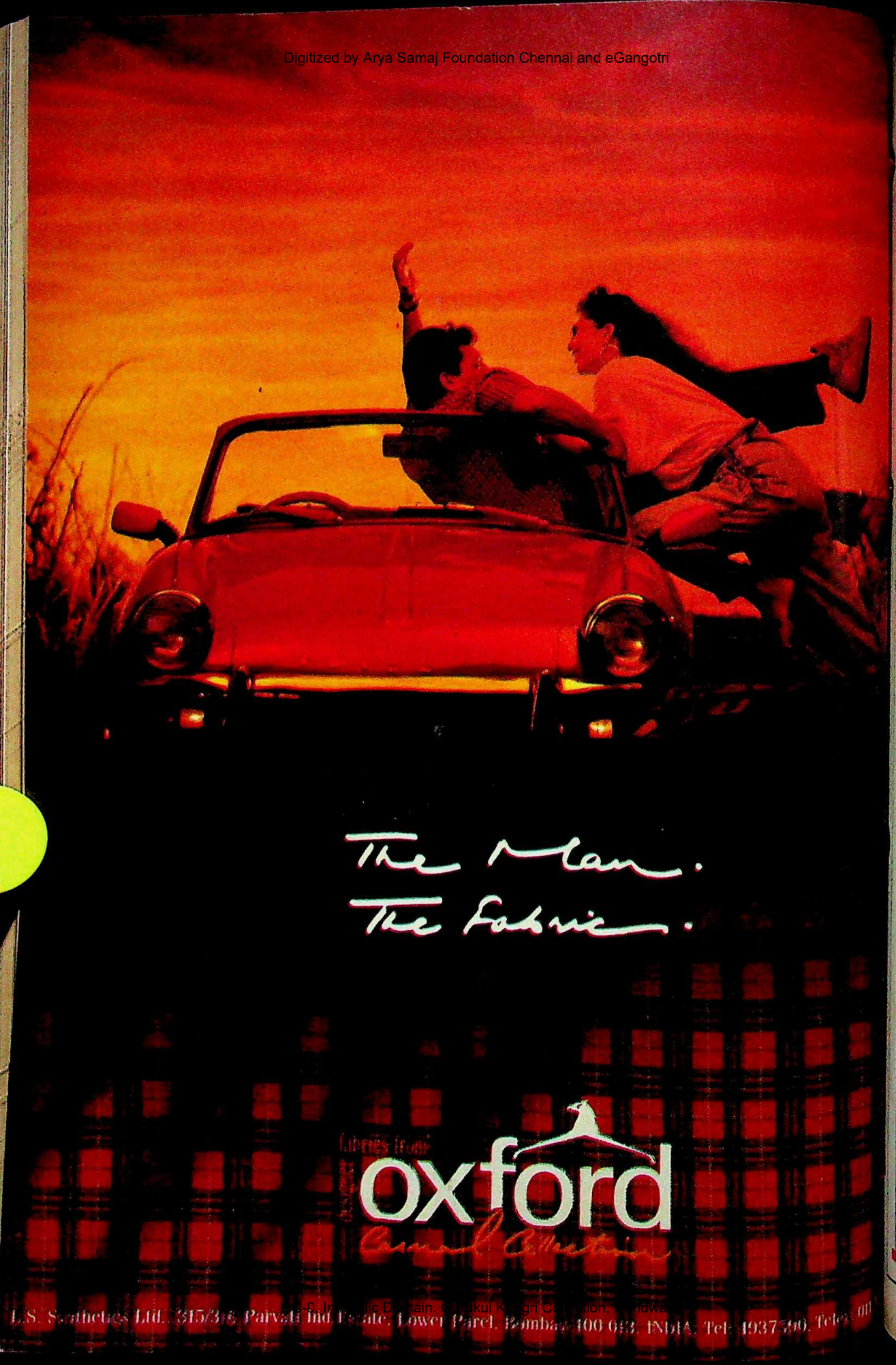
- Average price of imported crude does not increase beyond $24-25/barrel for the whole of 1990-91. The first six months (April-October) will see the average price hovering around $21/barrel because India has imported at below $15/barrel between April and July.
- The total oil import bill goes up by Rs 1,600-1,800 crore, that is, to Rs 8,000-8,200 crore. USSR, Malaysia and other countries agree to staggered payments.
- Demand is curbed by 1-2 per cent by austerity measures and conservation.
- The increase in the budget deficit is around Rs 1,800 crore. (Finance Minister Madhu Dandavate tells Parliament in late-August: "...The Oil Coordination Committee deposits budgeted at Rs 1,400 crore are not likely to materialise...")
- Impact of higher oil imports on the official wholesale price index is contained at 1-1.5 per cent

PESSIMISTIC SCENARIO
Prospects of war continue indefinitely

- The average price of imported crude jumps anywhere between $30/barrel and $40/barrel. Product prices go up by a relatively higher margin. Additional foreign exchange outgo on imports is Rs 3,000-4,000 crore.
- Curbs on consumption imposed by the Government prove to be ineffective. The demand for oil increases by 6-7 per cent. The import bill goes up by, say, Rs 1,000 crore on this count alone, that is, due to the failure to contain demand pressures.
- The total oil import bill zooms to cross the Rs 10,000 crore mark. Worse, the tag touches Rs 12,000 crore.
- Budget deficit balloons from Rs 7,200 crore to well over Rs 10,000 crore.
- Hyperinflation: The wholesale price index rises by an extra 5-6 per cent leading to 14-15 per cent inflation during the year.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

NUCLEAR POWER

Like large hydel schemes, atomic power projects have also been plagued by delays; the official explanation being that this is the price the nation has to pay to become technologically self-reliant. The contribution of nuclear energy to the total power generation has come down from 2.7 per cent to 1.9 per cent during the '80s. The country's six nuclear power reactors in commercial operation—two each at Tarapur in Maharashtra, Rawatbhata in Rajasthan and Kalpakkam in Tamil Nadu—together generated 20.7 per cent less than the power generated between '89 and '90. The main reason for the decline was a series of hitches at Tarapur.

The current year's generation target was initially placed at 48 per cent higher than last year's target. This was clearly unrealistic. S.L. Kati, managing director, Nuclear Power Corporation, says that this target has since been scaled down to around 35 per cent due to delays in the commercial operation of the Narora plant.

NATURAL GAS

There is no doubt that gas has to increasingly replace oil as a source of hydro-carbon energy, as in most developed countries. Last year alone, around 30 per cent of the total natural gas produced in the country valued at nearly Rs 1,800 crore was flared. In the mid-'80s, it was realised that Bombay High would produce more associated gas—as opposed to free gas which comes mainly from South Bassein—than anticipated. The flaring of gas could have been reduced by bringing down the crude production. For that, however, a price would have to be paid.

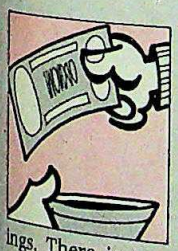
It is this dilemma which has sparked off a controversy that the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) has allegedly 'flogged' its wells in the late-'80s to hike oil—and hence gas—output in the short-run and thus brought down Bombay High's long-term exploitation potential. To look into these allegations, the Government has appointed a committee.

The first problem about the use of gas currently being flared is how to find enough resources to bring it ashore and transport it to users. But what purpose will the gas thus supplied achieve? Production of power, fertiliser or for domestic use? Answer: all three. The debate over what should be the optimal priorities for gas use has raged for many years. The feeling today is that gas must be used and not wasted. But pricing remains a conten-

What can be done to cope with the crisis?

DRAW DOWN RESERVES:

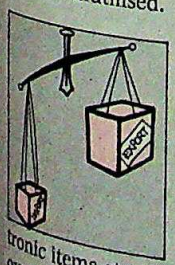
THE country's hard currency reserves have been periodically dipping to around Rs 5,000 crore over the last 18 months—this amount is barely equal to a month and half's imports. Short of selling official gold which is undervalued, the Government can afford to reduce reserves by only a few hundred crore rupees.



BORROW MORE

INDIA'S foreign borrowings had crossed Rs 80,000 crore early this year—the amount required to service this debt (including repayments to NRIs) is close to 30 per cent of the country's export earnings. There is no way borrowings can be increased substantially without falling into a debt trap.

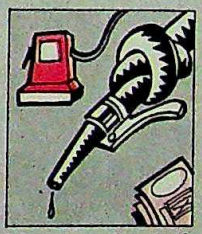
One way out is to speed up utilisation and disbursement of foreign aid. Currently, over Rs 40,000 crore of all kinds of foreign aid have been committed to India but remain unutilised.



CUT IMPORTS/ BOOST EXPORTS

IN the last few months, the Commerce Ministry has announced cuts in various imports, including imports of components of automobiles, consumer durables, electronic items etc. The idea is to reduce such imports by over Rs 1,000 crore. It will be difficult to cut total imports below Rs 43,000 crore budgeted this year (against just under Rs 40,000 crore in 1989-90). Further import cuts will slow down the overall rate of industrial growth.

This year's export target is already at Rs 36,000 crore. The only way to exceed this figure is by exporting agricultural commodities. Food stocks came down from 13 million tonnes in June last year to below 10 million tonnes in September; now they're up to 21 million tonnes thanks to the third successive good monsoon.



INCREASE FUEL PRICES/CURB CONSUMPTION FURTHER

IN addition to the austerity measures already announced, a section in the Government is in favour of imposing a surcharge (of around 10 per cent) on sales of petroleum products to suppress demand. The Petroleum Ministry is against hiking diesel prices since it will increase transportation costs leading to disproportionately higher prices across-the-board. Kerosene prices are almost impossible to hike without paying a stiff political price since it is used mainly by the poor. Thus the brunt of higher prices will be borne by petrol users. But this will have a negligible overall impact since petrol accounts for only 6 per cent of total oil consumption while diesel and kerosene together account for around 50 per cent.

There is no substitute to stepping up conservation efforts and working out effective carrot-and-stick strategies by which profligate users of energy are penalised and efficient users rewarded. Also the need to develop alternative non-renewable sources of energy can hardly be underscored.

CONCLUSION: Since no single option is going to be effective, the Government will have to try all of them.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

tious issue. "It's a question of which sector—power or agriculture—should get a larger share of the subsidy cake," says a government economist.

Meanwhile, the Tatas and the Birlas have moved court because of differences with the Gas Authority of India Ltd (GAIL) over the terms of the contracts drawn up by GAIL to supply gas for the last two of the five proposed fertiliser plants which are to come up along the Hazira-Bijaipur-Jagdishpur pipeline. Currently, barely 60 per cent of the capacity of the Rs 1,700-crore pipeline is being utilised.

NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY

India has vast untapped potential for generating power from the sun, wind, ocean, biomass and other non-conventional sources of energy. Set up in 1962, the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources (DNES) has started many schemes which have achieved limited success. Many programmes have remained confined to the laboratory or, at best, reached the pilot plant stage. The main snag is the high investment cost. The absence of indigenous technology and equipment is another major drawback. For instance, all the equipment needed to commercially exploit wind energy has to be imported.

ALTHOUGH the country built its first solar water heater way back in 1950, the DNES set up its first 50 kw solar power plant only last year. A feasibility study was done some years ago for a Rs 90-crore, 30 MW solar-cum-thermal power plant near Jodhpur in Rajasthan, based on US technology. But the plan has been shelved. The programme for the development of solar photovoltaic cells—primarily for street lighting and pumping water—has been more successful.

The department estimates that India has a wind energy potential of 20,000 MW, but till date only nine wind 'farms' with a total capacity of 10.10 MW have been installed. Although the capital cost of generating electricity from wind farms is comparable to that of thermal power stations, there are few sites, mainly in Gujarat, where such farms can come up. Another attraction of wind power is that the gestation period is very short.

Biomass, usually agriculture waste, is abundant in the country and has great potential for power generation. According to one estimate, the 400-odd sugar mills in the country can burn surplus bagasse to generate 2,500 MW of power at a fraction of the cost it will take to install a similar capacity super thermal power station which will cost Rs 4,000 crore and take eight years to set up. Another study shows that the rice husk available in the country can be

Indo-Gulf Trade: Gloomy Scenario

THE immediate impact of the Gulf crisis will be to sharply reduce exports of Indian engineering goods to Iraq—such exports have comprised over 50 per cent of total Indian exports to that country. Interestingly, India imported less oil from Iraq last year than the year before. The official reason is that this was due to disputes over the pricing of oil. But reliable sources claim that Iraq was also reluctant to give more oil to India.

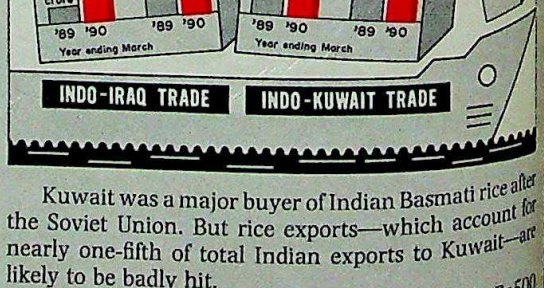
Over the years, Iraq's total dues to India have accumulated to Rs 1,000 crore (payable till 1993). But the Indian Government took a lenient view of these outstanding payments in the belief that they would be eventually paid for by increasing oil supplies. But this hasn't happened. And today, after the Gulf crisis, Indian construction companies in Iraq are apprehensive whether the total amount owed to them—estimated at $500 million (Rs 850 crore)—can be recovered.

After 1983, when Iraq was short of hard currency because of its war with Iran, it entered into deferred payment agreements with India. Iraq said it would adjust the dues of construction firms in instalments against oil imports. Now with a huge question-mark hanging over further oil imports from Iraq, companies like Som Dutt Builders, Jaiprakash Associates and Continental Construction are in a deep fix. Moreover, the concerns have equipment valued at around $300 million (Rs 510 crore) lying idle in Iraq at present.

"We don't know how we'll repay the loans we have taken from foreign banks," says C.L. Verma, chairman, Continental Construction. After the long Iran-Iraq war, Indian construction companies were banking on bagging lucrative contracts. But all plans have been put on hold.

The disruption of India-Iraq trade will also have an impact on Indo-Soviet trade. Around 5 million tonnes of Basra crude comes annually to India from Iraq on the USSR account. The Soviets, in turn, compensate Iraq by exporting projects and manpower. This three-way trade relationship will be thrown off gear now. The Soviets are believed to have agreed to provide two-thirds of its Iraqi crude commitment to India from its ports on the Black Sea and the Siberian coast. But this will result in a rise in freight costs. Also, as Soviet crude is not suited to Indian refineries, India will have to swap part of this crude in global markets.

Chart by B.K. SHARMA



Kuwait was a major buyer of Indian Basmati rice after the Soviet Union. But rice exports—which account for nearly one-fifth of total Indian exports to Kuwait—are likely to be badly hit.

Also, NRI remittances may temporarily swell by Rs 500 crore, but the return of some two lakh Indians from the Gulf will constrict the flow of funds in the medium term. This is because deposits from the Middle East account for around 40 per cent of total NRI deposits of Rs 18,000 crore—over 15 per cent had come from Iraq and Kuwait. So, India's already bad balance of payments may well worsen soon.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

used to generate 6,000 MW of power. But these are mere estimates. Many of the biomass energy programmes have not got off the ground. Example: the DNES's national gobar-gas project. This project also came in for severe criticism from the comptroller and auditor general because many of its plants were found to be non-functional due to shortage of dung.

Crippled by delays, inefficiency and inadequate technology, none of these alternative sources has succeeded in providing any real relief to the energy crunch. Even so, there is no option but to pursue them doggedly—and the current crisis should provide the much needed fillip.

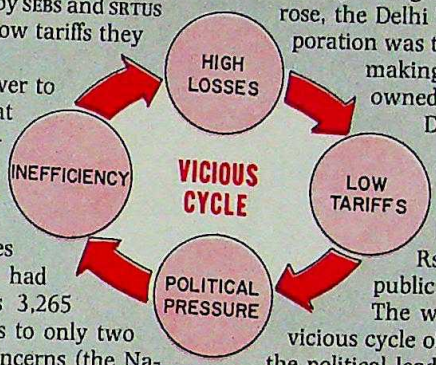
Mounting Losses

INDIA'S state electricity boards (SEBS) and state road transport undertakings (SRTUS) face a common problem. Both are inefficiently run and grossly overstaffed. The high losses incurred by SEBS and SRTUS are due to the low tariffs they charge.

SEBS sell power to agriculturists at prices way below generating costs. Till March this year, the cumulative losses of 17 SEBS had mounted to Rs 3,265 crore. SEBS' dues to only two public sector concerns (the National Thermal Power Corporation and the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation) are close to Rs 1,200 crore. Only four SEBS have been earning a surplus: Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.

SRTUS also subsidise urban commuters and there are strong political pressures against hiking the rates. Until three years ago when bus fares rose, the Delhi Transport Corporation was the largest loss-making government-owned company. During the seventh plan (1985-90), SRTUS swallowed over Rs 1,100 crore of public funds.

The way out of this vicious cycle of poverty is for the political leadership to convince the people that they should pay more for better services rather than less for erratic utilities. Or higher tariffs have to be accompanied with increased efficiency. But then there is no simple answer.



CONSERVATION

SEVENTEEN years after the first oil crisis, the Indian Government continues to make token attempts at conserving and curbing the demand for oil. Today, the country is not very much closer to becoming energy efficient by the standards of developed countries than it was in 1973.

The hours during which petrol pumps can operate have been drastically cut. Ministers are driving to official functions in personal cars on Sundays. But these are, at best, symbolic gestures. For, petrol accounts for a meagre 6 per cent of total oil consumption. Use of high-speed diesel—accounting for 39 per cent of total demand—has galloped at 10 per cent per year. So what can be done? Conserve.

Over the years, innumerable studies have pointing measures to conserve energy have gathered dust. One exhaustive official study, conducted by a group headed by D.V. Kapur and presented in 1983, made a startling disclosure that as much as 5.15 million tonnes of oil could be saved every year—currently valued at nearly Rs 2,000 crore—on an investment of around Rs 1,200 crore, none of it in foreign exchange. Says Kapur: "We can reduce consumption by more than 10 per cent through conservation."

The transport sector is the biggest guzzler accounting for nearly 50 per cent of total oil consumption. Thus it is the prime target for most conservation drives. In the last three years, every year an additional 2 lakh passenger cars and 5 lakh two and three wheelers have hit Indian roads. This has made only a small section of the population more mobile. Reason: public transport facilities have hardly grown.

Given this situation, there is very little scope for fuel conservation by private vehicles in the immediate future, except by improving driving habits and by enforcing car pooling.

In the medium term, energy conservation in the transport sector will mean a combination of measures—better roads, more fuel efficient engines and the use of alternative fuels such as 'gasohol' (gasoline mixed with alcohol) and compressed natural gas (CNG). Further, the country has to lay greater emphasis on developing its inland waterways since this is the most fuel efficient mode of transport—an official study shows that one horse power can move 4,000 kg by water against 150 kg by road and 500 kg by rail.

TO start with cars, of the estimated 12 lakh passenger cars plying in the country, perhaps half are fuel-inefficient. Since Indians, unlike Americans, don't like to scrap old cars, kits will have to be devised to improve existing jalopies. But the real difference will come when diesel is more efficiently used in trucks and buses. Experts suggest that diesel be diverted from the road to the rail sector as a truck uses 10 times more energy than a train.

In the long run, diesel can be conserved only by improving engines and bodies. Indian buses, for instance, are built on truck chassis which are designed to carry 10 tonnes of load. As an average busload of passengers does not weigh more than 4 tonnes, buses could be equipped with a less powerful engine to give more mileage. And bus bodies could be made more aerodynamic.

In the agriculture sector, the 50 lakh pump-set owners in the country can cut fuel consumption by more than 10 per cent by modifying their equipment which would entail an investment of less than Rs 100 per pump-set. Since agricultural pump-set users pay a low price for electricity and use diesel as a standby fuel, they gain little by conserving fuel.

Similar disincentives work against saving energy in industry. "In India, machinery prices are around 2.5 times higher than those in industrialised countries while fuel is more or less equal to world prices. Where then is the incentive to save energy?" asks an official.

Quite true. But that is hardly any reason to go slow on conservation efforts. Since 1973, energy use per unit of gross national product has come down by a massive 35 per cent in Japan. While in the US—the world's biggest oil consumer—the decline was a modest 25 per cent. India is hardly in a position to emulate these examples. But there's no harm in trying just a bit harder.

—PARANJOY GUHA THAKURTA with SURAJEET DASGUPTA and W.P.S. SIDHU

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

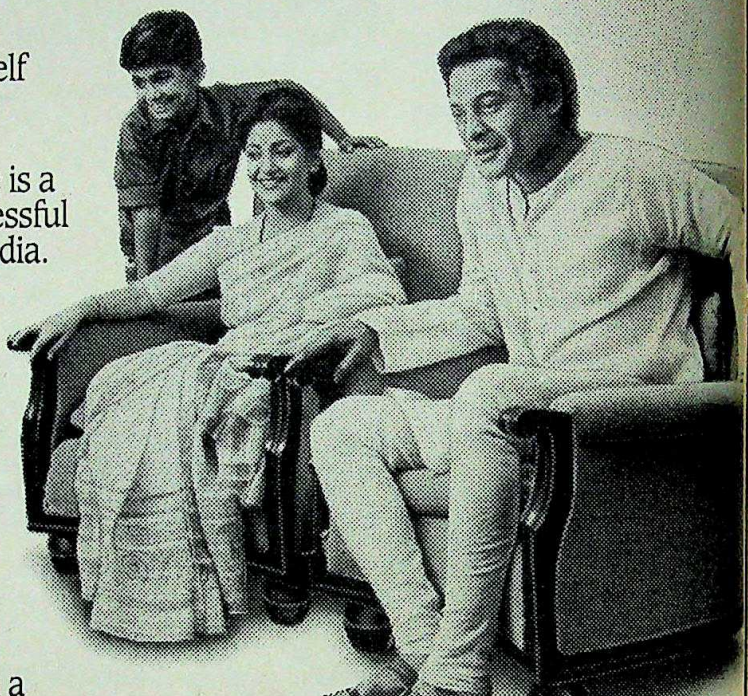
The friendly Man from Eureka Forbes is about to demonstrate the most convenient way to keep your home free of dust and dirt.

One of these days the friendly Eureka Forbes salesman will ring your doorbell and introduce himself with his identity card.

This man inspires confidence – which is only natural. Because he is a member of the largest, most successful sales organisation of its kind in India. Backed by dependable after sales service.

He will introduce modern home products to cope with today's problems – dust, pollution, contaminated water and the lack of domestic help.

He has two unique products to demonstrate: EUROCLEAN all-purpose cleaning system, which is much more than a vacuum cleaner, and AQUAGUARD on-line, water filter-cum-purifier.



EUROCLEAN removes minute specks of dirt and dust in your home effortlessly. Even dust you didn't know existed. AQUAGUARD gives you clear, safe drinking water on tap – at the flick of a switch – even if the raw water has high bacterial contamination.

The Eureka Forbes salesman will show you – in your own home – how these products can bring the advantages of modern cleanliness and hygiene to your family. Making it a cleaner, safer world for you.

You need not wait till his rounds bring him to your doorstep. For further information do write to us at Eureka Forbes Limited, P.O. Box 936, G.P.O., Bombay 400 001.

Euroclean
The all-purpose cleaning system which is much more than a vacuum cleaner.

Aquaguard
On-line, water filter-cum-purifier.

EUREKA FORBES LIMITED
Pioneers in modern cleanliness and hygiene.

everest/89/EFL/188 R2

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

GOING PLACES

THE movement of top economic officials to cushy postings abroad is becoming a regular caravan. It started with Abid Hussain, former member, Planning Commission and Gopi Arora, former finance secretary, who were both moved to Washington after the National Front came to power. Then, Nitin Desai, former chief economic adviser, moved to Geneva as deputy director-general of a key UN organisation. Two more top officials may soon be on their way: Vijay Kelkar, chairman, Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices, who is tipped to replace B.K. Das at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and Shankar Acharya, economic adviser in the Finance Ministry, who may move to the World Bank.

FILLING A VACUUM

WITH an annual turnover of Rs 44 crore, vacuum flask manufacturer Eagle Flask Industries is a pygmy in the Indian corporate world. But the company may soon have something to crow about to bigger players: it has developed the world's first microwave oven-compatible flask and obtained a global patent for it. In the new flask, brand-named Microtherm, the conventional inner container is replaced with a microwaveable one, enabling it to be directly heated in a microwave oven. Eagle's marketing efforts will be primarily directed at the US where over 10 million microwave ovens are sold every year. Initially, it plans to set up a plant producing one million Microtherms a year. The prospects seem good: already, three US home appliance companies—Black and Decker, Thermos and Mr Coffee—have offered to tie up.

NOVEL PRODUCER

LEADING Tamil film producer G. Venkateswaran is proving to be an innovative entrepreneur too. Last year, his film company, G.V. Films, went public—the first one in the country to do so. Now, Venkateswaran has teamed up with other entrepreneurs to sell their products under the brand name Anjali, the title of his most recent box-office hit. The charge: 5-7 per cent of total turnover of the branded product. In another novel move, Venkateswaran plans to bypass film distributors for his next film, and directly invite tenders from theatre owners who want to screen the film. He's also working on another radical idea: to set up prefabricated theatres costing Rs 40 lakh a piece all over the country in association with the National Film Development Corporation.

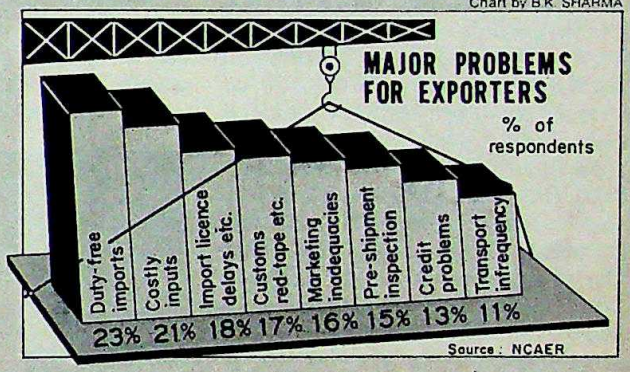
MAKING A COMEBACK

AS chairman of Unit Trust of India (UTI), M.J. Pherwani ruled the stock-markets for more than five years since 1984. Then in March this year, after the National Front took over, he was moved out as chairman of Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services Ltd, a relatively lightweight position. But things may be brightening up once again for Pherwani. There are rumours that he will be appointed chairman of General Insurance Corporation (GIC) after Ashok Goenka retires in October, though there's a dark horse in the race: S.V. Soni, chairman of Oriental Bank of Commerce. If Pherwani's appointment does come through, it will be a homecoming: he started his career in GIC and was general manager in charge of investment before he moved to UTI.

SURVEYING COMPLAINTS

INDIAN exporters have always had a long litany of complaints. Now the Delhi-based National Council of Applied Economic Research has conducted a survey of exporters and quantified those complaints *(see chart)*. Complaint Number One is the difficulty in obtaining duty refunds on imports of inputs. Next is the high domestic cost

Chart by B.K. SHARMA



of inputs. The duty refunds that the Government grants are, of course, an attempt to get around this problem. But as the first complaint shows, it creates its own hassles. Most of the other complaints have to do with governmental red tape and corruption. Quite in keeping with tradition, that.

ON AUTO DRIVE

ITS ability to turn on a fifty-paisa coin radius is legendary, but otherwise the three-wheeled scooter is regarded as a clumsy, inefficient vehicle. Now, Bajaj Auto, which has a 90-per cent share of this market, is planning to change that image. It's working on a more efficient, four-stroke engine model expected to hit the roads by 1993. That isn't the only difference: besides being targeted at autorickshaw drivers, the new model will be promoted as a family vehicle.

BANKING ON INDIA

OVER-EXTENDED and saddled with losses, the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) is slashing staff and closing down bank branches all over the world. But clearly, it views India as a profitable proposition. BCCI, which has just one branch in the country, in Bombay (deposits: Rs 305 crore), has formally applied to set up shop in New Delhi. Banks from foreign countries can open branches in India only on a reciprocal basis. But that should be no problem for BCCI, since it is headquartered in Abu Dhabi, home to branches of several Indian banks.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

THE STOCK-MARKET

Breaking all Barriers

An unrestrained upward trend sweeps the nation's exchanges

IN normal times, the stock-market's movements resemble the ocean tides, an ebb following a rise, a rise following an ebb. A little boom, a little crash, then the whole cycle all over again.

But for weeks on end now, the stock-market has been more like the Brahmaputra in spate, flooding its banks and inexorably breaking through every predicted barrier. The four-year lull is over. The stock-market seems to know only one direction: up.

In just six months, between March and September 1990, the 30-share Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) Sensitive Index has shot up from 774 to 1,260, an increase of 60 per cent. For a time, it seemed as if it would be arrested at the 1,000 mark. Then, in one swift surge, that barrier was broken. There's been no stopping since. And it's not as if the boom is restricted to a handful of shares. During the same period, the *Economic Times'* all-India share index rose from 393 to 630, once again an increase of 60 per cent.

To slow down the rise and curb speculation, the BSE, which accounts for 70 per cent of the country's total trade in shares, has imposed stringent trading restrictions. And at various times, it has clamped margins on volatile scrips such as Associated Cement Companies (ACC) and Reliance Industries. It has even imposed trading limits on individual brokers.

But the intractable bull market refuses to be curbed. For instance, ACC, until recently regarded as the laggard of the cement industry, has turned around smartly to be 1990's star performer, its share price moving from Rs 600 to a mind-boggling Rs 1,850. And Reliance Industries, thought to be in the dog-house after the National Front Government came to power, has rallied as well, its scrip registering an increase from Rs 60 to Rs 160.

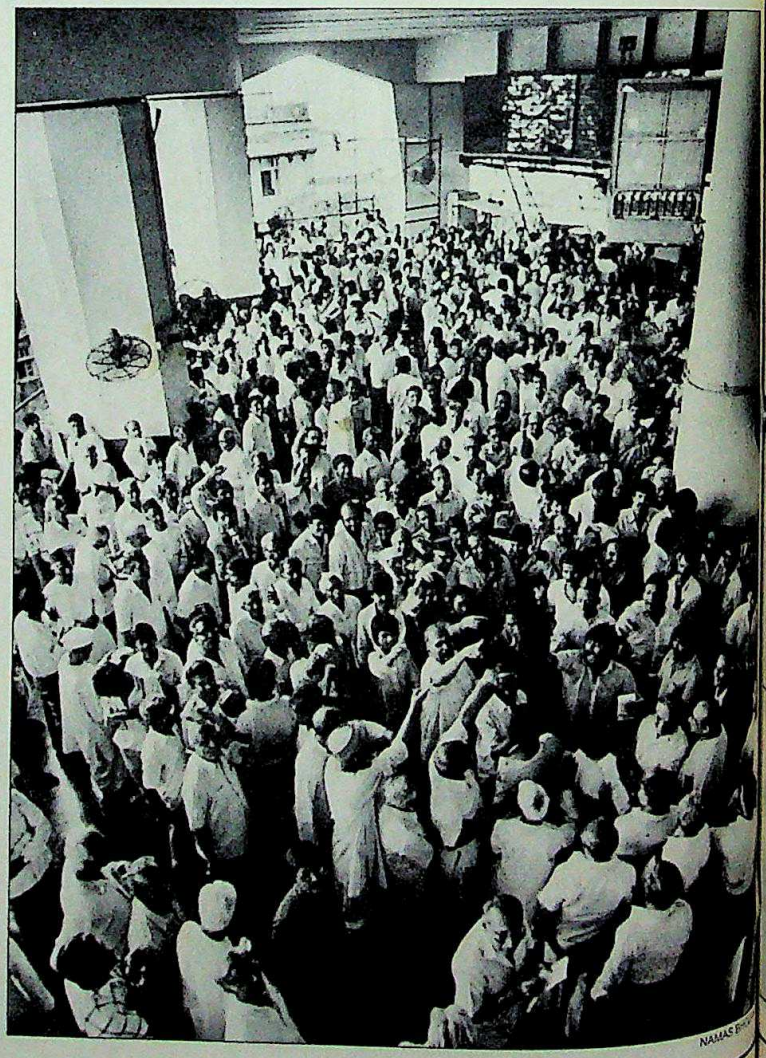
A leading Bombay-based broker voices the belligerence of the broking community: "If they impose curbs on our trading, we will trade in the kerb," (carry out unofficial deals outside the purview of the stock exchange). Brokers insist that the stock exchange authorities are worrying unnecessarily, and that the boom, like the one in 1985, has sound underpinnings.

That view is backed by Pradeep Shah, managing director of the state-owned Credit Rating and Information Services of India Ltd (CRISIL). "The fundamental indicators," he says, "are very strong: good monsoon for the third year consecutively, excellent corporate results and consistent liberalisation." M.J. Pherwani, former chairman of the Unit Trust of India, agrees, arguing that at least a part of the current boom is a catching-up process with the fundamentals. But he also sounds a note of caution by saying that overspeculation should be avoided.

The fear of speculation may be legitimate. For weeks now, the market seems to have become totally oblivious to bad news. The deteriorating balance of payments position, political rumblings and the still-present threat of war with Pakistan haven't affected share prices even one little bit.

The recent Iraq-Kuwait tangle and gloomy prospects of a whopping oil import bill set stock-markets around the world on a downward tumble. The leading stock-markets of New York, London and Tokyo experienced minor crises. In India, on the contrary, every incident in the Iraq episode seems to

Bombay Stock Exchange: boom time



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

have given share prices an added boost. Says S.A. Dave, chairman of the Unit Trust of India: "The lack of correlation between the state of the economy and the stock-markets is puzzling. It is not the sign of a mature market."

But the boom isn't really all that inexplicable. For one, the capital markets are attracting funds from other markets. Says S. Dharampal, general manager, Canbank Mutual Fund, one of the largest investment funds in the country: "Money from the diamond trade, real estate and textiles is now flooding the stock-markets." And while no one is willing to hazard a guess on the total amount of such funds, they are believed to be substantial. Stock exchange authorities argue that investments in such markets have traditionally been speculative, and that the effect of such speculators transferring their interest to the stock-market is not at all healthy.

Another factor that has contributed to the continuing boom in the stock-market is the paucity of new share and debenture issues. During the first six months of 1990, companies hitting the market with new issues collected just Rs 700 crore, as compared with Rs 2,300 crore in the corresponding period last year. With the primary market blocked, investors seem to have been compensated by putting their money in the secondary market—with expected results on share prices.

SHAH of CRISIL feels the answer to the demand for investment options is to expeditiously clear new issues. Certainly, the investor's appetite for good new issues continues to be as healthy as ever. Raymond Synthetics' recent issue, for instance, was oversubscribed 30 times: it received a whopping 31 lakh applications.

Thankfully, the shortage may soon be over: new issues by Lloyds Steel and Tata Oil Mills, among several others, are in the final stages of clearance. Says G.V. Ramakrishna, chairman of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), the watch-dog of the capital markets: "New issues worth Rs 900 crore are on their way. That should cool the market down to some extent."

The controller of capital issues, by delaying new issues, may have unintentionally contributed to the current boom in the market. But public sector financial institutions—the Unit Trust of India and the mutual funds of the nationalised banks such as SBI Capital Markets, Canbank Mutual Fund and a clutch of others—have also been directly responsible. They are believed to have channelled as much as Rs 1,600 crore into the stock-market. Their resources are certainly phenomenal. And as the boom continues, they find it even easier to attract funds, a case of boom feeding on boom. Take Canstar, for example, the latest mutual fund from Canbank Mutual. When it opened for subscription last month, it expected to draw in about Rs 300 crore. Now, even conservative estimates expect the final figure will be Rs 700 crore.

The Government has taken note of the bullish capabilities of the mutual funds and financial institutions. Last fortnight, S.S. Nadkarni, chairman of the Industrial Development Bank of India, convened a meeting of the heads of financial institutions and mutual funds at which he is understood to have said that "it is the duty of the institutions and mutual funds to ensure that the stock-markets are under control". And then in typical bureaucratese Nadkarni also "advised" mutual funds to restrain from making heavy purchases in overheated markets.

This advice hasn't been received too kindly by mutual fund managers. One manager complains that mutual funds cannot be regulators of the stock-market on one hand and be expected to give a good return to shareholders on the other. Argues another: "The BSE alone has a turnover of Rs 100 crore a day and the market capitalisation is Rs 65,000 crore. How much damage can Rs 1,600 crore do, especially when only 30 per cent is invested in equity stocks?"

Ram K. Piparaiya, chairman and managing director of Aridhi Investments Ltd, doesn't buy that argument. "The mutual funds have made a considerable impact. The amount of Rs 1,600 crore cannot be compared with the market capitalisation of Rs 65,000 crore. The first is at face value, the second market value," he says. Also, it is the value of highly liquid shares which really matters, and that is just a fraction of Rs 65,000 crore. In that

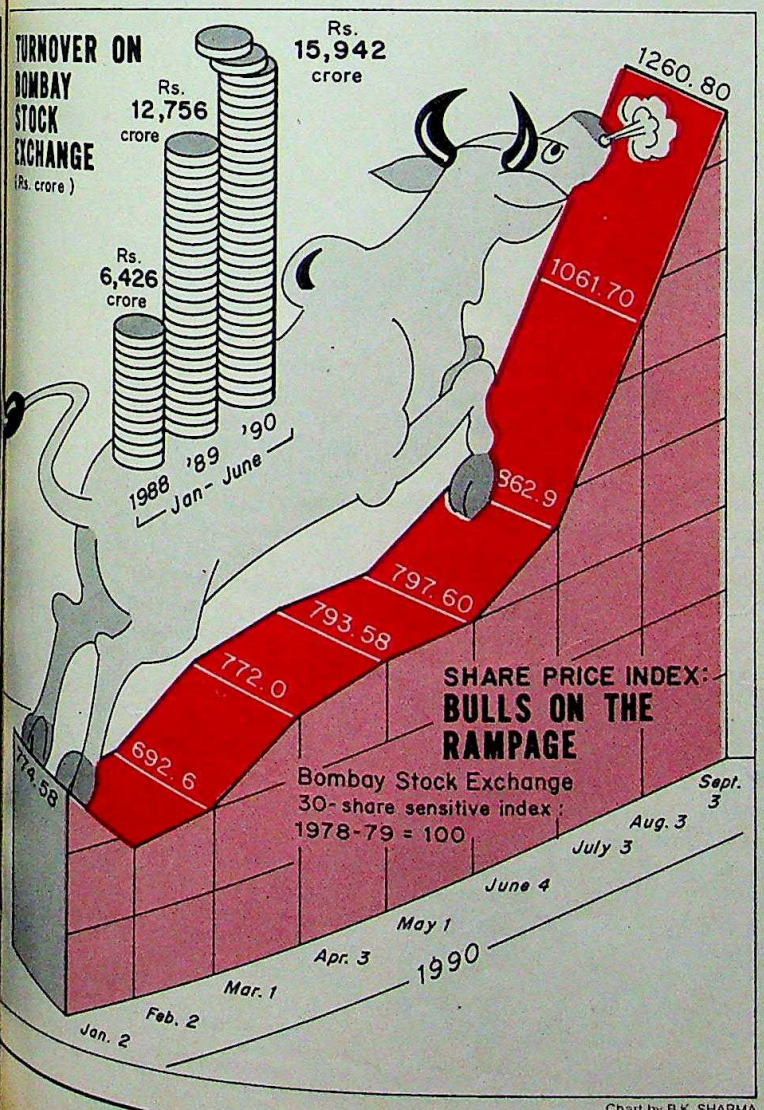


Chart by B.K. SHARMA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

category of shares, the effect of mutual funds can be quite astounding.

Many, however, fear that in trying to curb speculation, the authorities may engineer a collapse. The real solution, they argue, does not lie in drastic knee-jerk reactions, but in educating the investor and expanding the new issues market.

Hopefully, the country may be moving in that direction. Ramakrishna, who has succeeded Dave at SEBI, has ambitious plans: setting up investor education cells, publicising the names of companies which delay the allotment of shares and refunding of share application money, and co-ordinating the various building blocks that make up the capital market.

However cynics abound. With most feeling that there is too much talk and very little action. And indeed, SEBI's track record is not inspiring. The main problem is that it still lacks teeth: draft legislation which will give it legal status is yet to be tabled in Parliament. So the board's intention of bringing *glasnost* to the capital markets of the country still remains only that—an intention.

Meanwhile, the market is having the time of its life. Brokers say that many companies' good performance is still not reflected in the price. Says one: "There are still bargains available in the market." They point out that the ratio of share price to earning per share of many companies is still low, meaning there is still scope for increase.

And after this year's good monsoon, rural pockets can be expected to bulge, with healthy effects on the corporate sector. The next series of six-monthly company results will probably be excellent. Observers believe that Diwali will bring a lot of cheer to the stock-market. They expect the BSE Sensitive Index to touch 1,500 by the end of the year. Says one analyst: "What we have seen is only the trailer, the main show is yet to start." An accurate prediction? Or just famous last words before a crash? The street astrologer with his parrot and cards is as likely to have the answer as the canniest stock analyst.—S.N. VASUKI and SHIV TANEJA with PHILIP GEORGE

HIGH FLIERS ON THE MARKET

* Share prices in Rupees	as on 26.3.90	as on 7.9.90
ACC	384	1,850
TATA POWER	457.50	1,675
MUKAND LTD.	137.50	185
RELIANCE INDUSTRIES	67	157
GUJ. AMBUJA CEMENTS	26.25	122.50
HOECHST LTD.	1,660	3,300
LARSEN & TOUBRO	79.50	151.25
BOMBAY DYEING	184	395
BAJAJ AUTO	395	700
PROCTER & GAMBLE	235	340

* Per share

REGIONAL EXCHANGES

Riding the Wave

THE current boom in the stock-markets is not restricted to Bombay—traditionally the largest exchange in the country. Bombay still accounts for a hefty 70 per cent of India's total trading but the growth of the regional exchanges is impressive. Even the most lethargic stock exchanges seem to have been suddenly charged with energy, transforming themselves into mini-Dalal Streets.

At the Calcutta Stock Exchange, the monthly turnover has shot up from Rs 848 crore in March this year to Rs 1,254 crore in July. Says D.J. Biswas, executive director of the exchange: "We require officers, but where will we make them sit." His problems are understandable. Calcutta is the only major exchange that does not use computers.

In Delhi, however, turnover in specified shares, which accounts for 90 per cent of volume, has fallen from Rs 133.47 crore in March to Rs 126.61 crore in August. But the fall could partly be the result of trading restrictions imposed by the exchange.

Down south, in conservative Madras, the volume of business was Rs 66 crore in January. In August, it went up to Rs 140 crore. S. Ramanathan, executive director of the exchange, says he sees no signs of the boom going bust.

In Ludhiana, the number of shares listed on the stock exchange has reached 175, and another 15 are soon to be registered. Trading has crossed Rs 2 crore a day. And the Cochin exchange has doubled its turnover over the past three months.

Even unrecognised stock exchanges, like the one in Chandigarh, refuse to be left out of the boom, though they can only trade in the spot market. Says Yashpal Vohra, a keen investor, one of a growing tribe in the city: "More and more salaried people are investing in shares."

But despite the impressive growth figures at most of the regional exchanges, trading is still thin, and all of them are hampered by the poor infrastructure. Also, communication between various exchanges still remains poor and a national stock exchange is probably quite some way into the future. The situation is ideal for arbitrageurs, who take advantage of price differences between various exchanges to carry out transactions at a profit. Nevertheless, they play a role in evening out prices across the country.

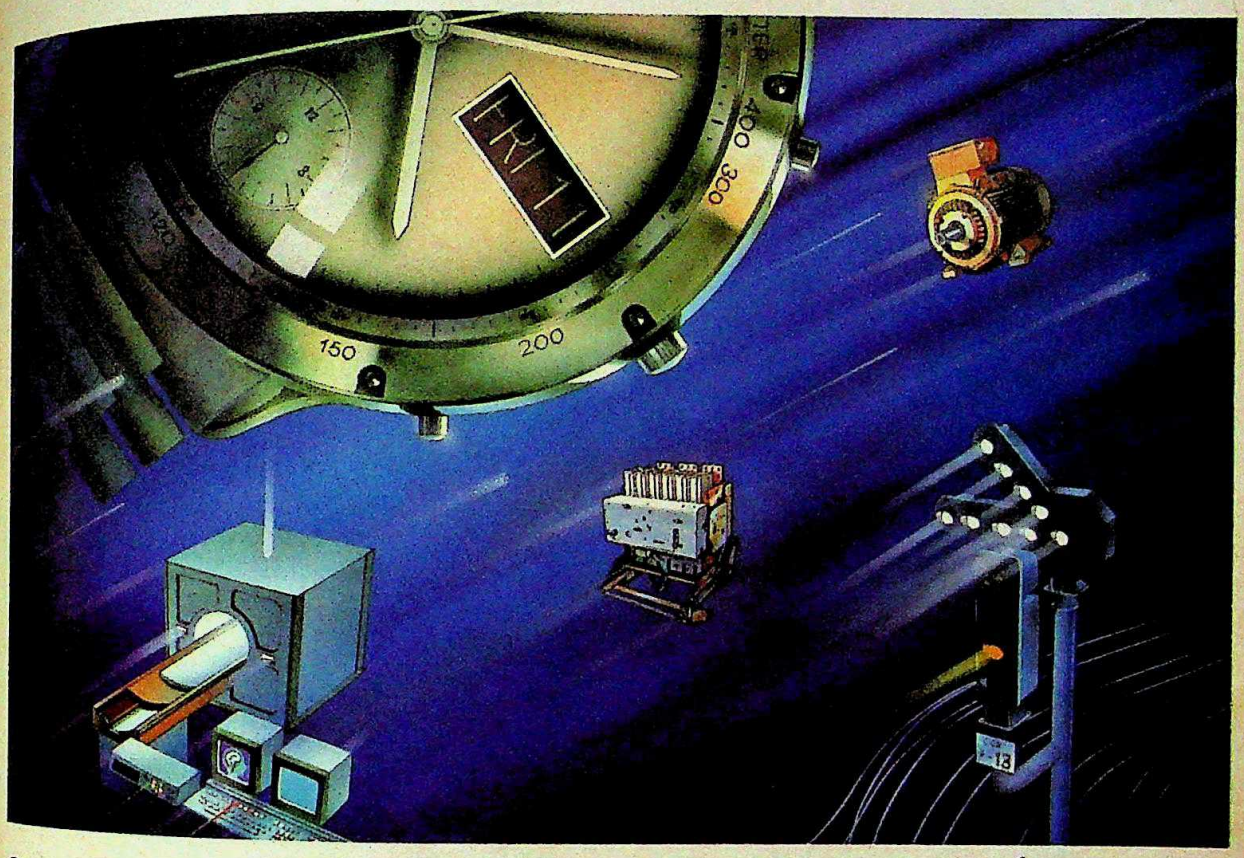
More important, deals in many of the smaller exchanges are often tied up in delays, and it could take an ordinary investor in a small town anywhere up to four months to execute a single transaction, losing the advantage of the moment. Unseemly controversies can cripple entire stock exchanges, as in Bangalore where a simmering share scandal is yet to be resolved. Investing is still largely a big city phenomenon, though the seeds for growth have certainly been sown.

—SHIV TANEJA and S.N. VASUKI with bureau reports

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

SIEMENS



Speed Matches Need

Siemens is able to continuously narrow the gap between need and response through a unique combination of human and technological resources.

When floods devastated the Reliance Industries Ltd. plant at Patalganga, near Bombay, last year, a Siemens task force went into action. Working night and day with access to spares and other facilities from the Siemens network, it was able to put the factory back in action in record time.

A fusion of human and technological resources enables Siemens to meet the need of the hour with upto-the-minute service.

Siemens sets the standard in a wide range of products, systems and projects. These include control and automation systems, railway signalling equipment, medical electronics, switchboards, switchgears, drives and motors, turnkey projects or new dimensions in telecommunications.

Trained to work with clockwork precision, Siemens service personnel make sure that with the best features of the product you also get one of the best features of the company—a swift response to your needs, anywhere, any time.

Siemens Ltd.,
P.O. Box 6597, Bombay 400 018.

Siemens
Where international technology meets human needs.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Golden moments. McDowell moments
Unmistakably No.1... McDowell's
McDowell's
THE SODA WITH SPIRIT

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

BLACK & WHITE & HANDSOME

Dad.
Smart and dashing.
In his first ever suit. A long time ago.
A Black & White photograph
has that timeless quality.
A memory becomes a legacy.
I can almost imagine how proud Dad felt.

INDU

INDU B & W FILM
For keeps. Forever.

Sales HPF-1437.90 C

HINDUSTAN PHOTO FILMS MFG CO LTD

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

The pleasure of sharing the genuine warmth and charm of Malaysia never ends

Wherever you fly, to over 70 destinations across 5 continents, we'll welcome you the moment you step on board, as we would an honoured guest in our own home, sharing with you a world of enchantment that is Malaysia.

Whether you are in the luxury of First Class, or the comfort of Golden Club, you'll enjoy the renowned inflight service of genuine warmth and charm that only Malaysians can offer.

The pleasure of flying never ends, when you are on the international airline with a modern fleet that includes the latest 747-400s.

Experience it when you fly to Malaysia, where you'll have a choice of 25 flights weekly to the Orient, 5 to Los Angeles and 7 to Australia.

malaysia AIRLINES

ENCHANTMENT WHEREVER YOU FLY

AMMAN•AMSTERDAM•AUCKLAND•BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN•BANGKOK•BRUSSELS•COLOMBO•DELHI•DENPASAR•DUBAI•FRANKFURT•FUKUOKA•GUANGZHOU (CANTON)•HAT YAI •HO CHI MINH CITY•HONG KONG•HONOLULU•ISTANBUL•JAKARTA•JEDDAH•KARACHI•KUALA LUMPUR•LONDON•LOS ANGELES•MADRAS•MANILA•MAURITIUS•MEDAN•MELBOURNE •PARIS•PERTH•PHUKET•PONTIANAK•SEOUL•SINGAPORE•SYDNEY•TAIPEI•TARAKAN•TEHRAN•TOKYO•YANGON (RANGOON)•ZURICH & 33 DESTINATIONS WITHIN MALAYSIA.

FOR RESERVATIONS, CONTACT YOUR FAVOURITE TRAVEL AGENT OR CALL MALAYSIA AIRLINES. DELHI TEL: 3321605, 3325786. MADRAS TEL: 868625, 868985, 868970, 862802.
GENERAL SALES AGENT MACKT TRAVEL & CARGO PVT LTD, BANGALORE TEL: 2364705-9

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

THE THAPAR GROUP

Gearing Up

Plans for major expansion

FOR years they were regarded as plodders. While other industrial groups grew by leaps and bounds the Thapars preferred to shy away from mega-projects and instead chose to take short, calculated steps. When in 1986 the Singhanias and the Ambanis overtook the Thapars from their position of being the third largest industrial house in the country, no one was surprised.

Suddenly all that is changing now. Yesterday's plodders are crouched at the starting blocks of the sprint to the mega-league. Numerous new projects involving an investment of a whopping Rs 2,000 crore, which is much higher than the group's turnover of above Rs 1,5000 crore, are on the drawing-board. These include:

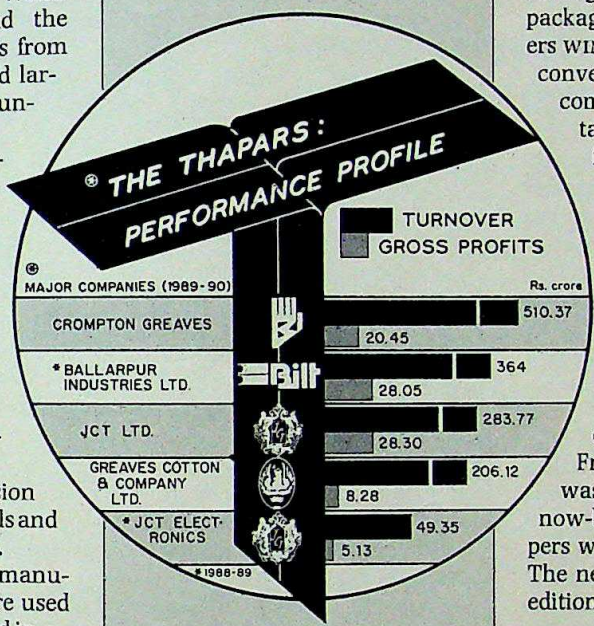
- A Rs 600-crore expansion project for the existing paper mills and the ones they have taken over.
- A Rs 300-crore project to manufacture Spandex—a stretch fibre used in garments—and nylon 66 used in tyre chords which is still awaiting government approval.
- A Rs 200-crore investment to produce a whole new range of chemicals like hydrogen peroxide and other intermediate products.

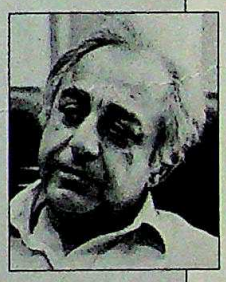
Nor is that all. The company is seriously scouting for a downstream petrochemicals plant with an investment plan of Rs 500 crore. It is putting another Rs 50 crore to set up a glass bottle manufacturing plant in Pondicherry. Explains L.M. Thapar, chairman of the Thapar group: "We will of course concentrate on our existing areas of strength—processing, engineering and chemicals. But in order to increase our turnover we are seriously planning to have a second bash into consumer products."

The bash is already on. Ballarpur Industries Ltd, the company's flagship which had stopped the manufacture of radios, is seriously eyeing the food processing business. Apart from these major investments there are plans to enter the highly competitive garments and shoe market. Also diversifying is engineering giant Greaves Cotton. It is getting into deep sea fishing and is tying up with a South East Asian company for an 100 per cent export oriented unit.

The company is also doubling its efforts to aggressively market its consumer products—fans, telephones, televisions and computers where the Thapar group experience has not been very encouraging. It is only ranked at number 12 in the computer industry in the country. Confesses K.K. Nohria, managing director of Crompton Greaves: "We underestimated competition in consumer electronics. We are re-valuating our strategies." Nohria's gameplan is to capitalise on the company's three-year-old research and development project which receives as much as 10 per cent of the turnover emanating from consumer electronics (Rs 50 crore).

Chart by B.K. SHARMA





L.M. Thapar (left); and M.M. Thapar: in tandem

The emphasis is on value-added products with export prospects.

Surely there is a method in the spate of diversifications and acquisitions. The name of the game is integration—both vertical and backward and a shift to value-added products where competition is much more subdued. Even the spate of acquisitions is part of this integration.

So Ballarpur Industries is setting up the first plant in the country to manufacture stretchable paper, used as packaging material. As part of the strategy, the company bought over the packaging unit of match manufacturers WIMCO where this paper would be converted into sacs. Not content, the company is now negotiating to takeover Rayalseema Paper Mills in Andhra Pradesh for making speciality paper for the higher reaches of the market.

And more, in order to ensure high quality pulp needed to manufacture paper, the Thapars have set up a new subsidiary, BILT Tree Tech in collaboration with Plantex of Australia, to evolve better quality soft wood plantations. From paper making to publishing was but a natural step. The Lucknow-based Pioneer group of newspapers was gobbled up for Rs 2.5 crore. The next step is to introduce a Delhi edition of the newspaper.

A similar trend is discernible in Crompton Greaves too. The company recently bought up a 24.5-per cent stake in Allen Bradley—an automation company—at just under Rs 2 crore. The acquisition makes sense, for while Bradley will execute large engineering projects Crompton Greaves will be able to supply electrical engineering equipment to them.

The Thapars are no longer content to stay in products where there is immense competition and margins are getting squeezed. Says M.M. Thapar, chairman and managing director of JCT Ltd: "We wanted to get out of the rat race. So we are going in for value-added products where competition is less and there is a chance to export. Earlier we used to sell cloth at Rs 30 a metre. Now we will produce cloth which we can sell for Rs 90." JCT is investing Rs 26 crore to manufacture a super fine range of suitings. And as if that is not enough, it is putting in another Rs 40 crore to get into higher quality yarns with an eye on the export market. Already the company is talking to Italian giants Vallissina which will buy the filament

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

yarn manufactured by them.

The export market is attracting the Thapars much more than ever before. Says Gautam Thapar, vice-president of Ballarpur Industries Ltd: "We are gearing up for exports. We are going through a learning process." Thapars are negotiating with Brightstar, a South Korean shoe company which plans to set up shop in India—taking advantage of cheap labour—to manufacture shoes for export. And not to be left behind, Greaves Cotton is storming the international market by selling a whole range of products from gear boxes to diesel engines.

The big expansion is bound to change the way the group has functioned. However, the Thapars are taking care that the group companies don't compete among themselves, but complement each other in the market place. So while a Ballarpur subsidiary manufactures EPABXs it is marketed by Crompton Greaves. Or, for instance, Jagatjit will be one of the primary consumers of Spandex to be manufactured by Ballarpur.

Yet it is not all glory for the Thapars. Andhra Pradesh Rayons—a group company which manufactures rayon pulp is deep in the red even after financial institutions had written off as much as Rs 21 crore—allegedly due to the group's links with the Congress(I) government. Though the Thapars deny any such connection, the company has accumulated a loss of Rs40 crore. Rayons is asking a consortium of nine banks to write off an additional Rs 11 crore. If this daring proposal is pushed through, the Government would have written off about Rs 33 crore, more than three times the company's capital.

Worse still even blue chip Greaves Cotton is finding its profitibilty under pressure as a result of lack of substantial orders from the oilfield and mining sector. So profit after tax have in fact fallen from 6.75 crore in 88-89 to 6.54 crore this year

What's more the Thapars have not yet extricated themselves from the four major cases of foreign exchange violations still pending against them out of the 31 such cases amounting to Rs 14 crore that were slammed on them. The group will have a lot of explaining to do about the four cases.

The Thapars are at the crossroads. They have to leap across many hurdles. But the coming years could indeed be crucial for the group as it is poised at the threshold of a new era.

—SURAJEET DAS GUPTA with SHIV TANEJA

BUSINESSPEAK

S.K. BIRLA

"Change labour legislation"

IN a career exceeding 30 years Sudarshan Kumar Birla, 55, has lived through both the licence raj—in which the Birlas were one of the chief beneficiaries—and the post-1985 era of liberalisation. When most businessmen were cashing in on a growing domestic market, Birla set up a clutch of fairly successful companies abroad.

Today he looks after a Rs 1,300-crore empire with interests in textiles, cements, edible oils, engineering and petrochemicals. He was recently elected chairman of the representatives of Chambers of Commerce of developing countries of Group 77.

After taking over as president of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, he spoke to Senior Correspondent SURAJEET DAS GUPTA *last fortnight about the problems of globalising Indian economy, ways to increase trade and cope with international competition.*

INDIA can no longer remain isolated from the rest of the world in the name of self-reliance. We were all hamstrung by rules and regulations—I personally know of large houses which were not allowed to upgrade their technology for 20 years. The principal thrust of our economy after Independence was on import substitution. Industry benefited from it but it led to a high cost and an uncompetitive economy flourishing under a protected domestic market. The need of the hour now is globalisation of the Indian economy.

What needs to be changed? It is essential that we have freedom of exit otherwise more units will become sick. Industry and the Government should make a joint effort to rehabilitate those who lose jobs as a result of closures.

Everybody talks about increasing industrial productivity. We are hemmed in by an overprotected labour legislation which needs to be drastically overhauled. Only 61 lakh blue collared workers are holding the whole nation to ransom. Our labour is paid better than most countries and yet I need more than five or six times more man hours to do the same job.

I also believe that no amount of penal proceedings can generate exports from big houses. Industry has to be given incentives to export. Look at the tremendous response from big houses when export earnings were made tax free. We are pushing for a system of export vouchers which will make imports expensive.

Worse, I think the concept of size for MRTP companies is most abnormal and unrealistic. Monopolies should address themselves to market dominance rather than size.

I personally believe that SAARC is not at all a strong economic union. It is essential that we should join the ASEAN countries in a common market. We have unfortunately ignored them as being insignificant countries. But today they have beaten us hollow. However it is still not too late for us to catch up.

As far as the Soviet Union is concerned we can no longer assume that it is going to be as prolific a buyer of Indian goods as before. We have to find alternative markets for our wares. What is more the European market will become even more competitive with the unification in 1992. We have to take a quantum leap to take on the challenge.

I think the controversy over allowing foreign investment is pseudo-political. We should allow foreigners in every area provided they can service their foreign exchange outgo by exports. One must be conscious of the fact that foreign investors are not waiting outside the gates to rush into India. There is enough happening in Europe for them and in fact we have to woo them aggressively to come to India.

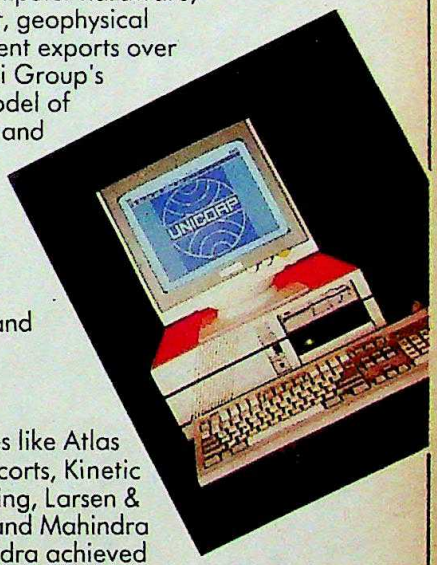
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

LEADING THE WAY TO SUCCESS STEP BY STEP

Perfecting the rare art of selecting opportunities and staying ahead

From a small departmental store to hi-tech areas as manufacturers of computer hardware, software development, geophysical instruments and garment exports over 3 decades. The Sogani Group's journey has been a model of corporate enterprise and is moving ahead while staying true to its unflinching commitment to quality, reliability and integrity.



Companies like Atlas Copco, Escorts, Kinetic Engineering, Larsen & Toubro and Mahindra & Mahindra achieved significant market shares for their products by utilising the marketing network of the Group.

Then, in the 80s, UNICORP INDUSTRIES LIMITED (earlier known as UNICORP COMPUTERS (P) LIMITED.) established the hi-tech image of the Group. In 1988-89, Unicorp was the 5th largest exporter in the Indian Computer industry. In 1989-90, it became the 2nd largest exporter of computer hardware.* Data Quest has ranked UNICORP among the top 10 micro producers in the country.

Three generations of the SOGANI GROUP. Leadership that has now been harnessed into UNICORP INDUSTRIES LIMITED

UNICORP

UNICORP INDUSTRIES LTD.

A Sogani Group Enterprise

C-176, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase-I, New Delhi 110 020.
Tel : 6845829, 6840682, 6831341, 6840985
Fax : 011-6845828

WE STAY AHEAD, SO YOU STAY AHEAD.

* Based on an independent survey by C & C

CLEA-D

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

AGE-OLD BEAUTY. BROUGHT TIGHT

Philips Lighting

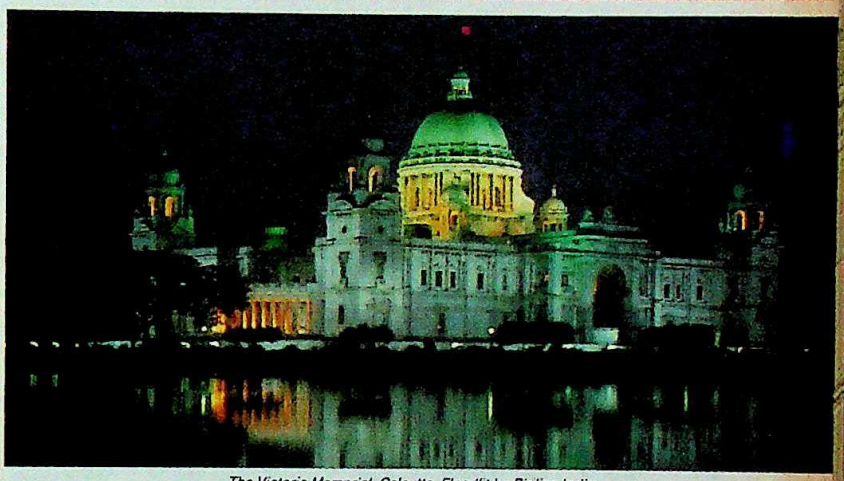
PHILIPS

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

T TIGHT.

Philips Lighting In Action



The Victoria Memorial, Calcutta. Floodlit by Philips India.

Ancient figures, carved in stone, come alive... bathed in light. Voices from the past resurrect history. With sound... and light. Philips Lighting. The brains behind some exquisite spectacles of architectural glory, seen today.

Philips Decorative Floodlighting: Past returns to the present.

Every archaeological site or ancient monument, has a historical "presence", that the world can see and touch and admire.

And, to make sure that this pleasure lasts well beyond daylight hours, Philips Lighting uses the most advanced technology in the world... to light up ancient monuments, every night. Two of its outstanding international achievements: The Tower Bridge in London and the Eiffel Tower in Paris.

PHILIPS INDIA has its own successes, too. Decorative floodlighting for the Marble Rocks at Jabalpur, the Hawa Mahal at Jaipur and the dancing fountains at the Vrindavan Gardens, Mysore... to mention but a few.

But that's not all. Only Philips gives the world... the wonder of Son et Lumière. A spectacle of technical wizardry that integrates multi-coloured lights of changing intensity and direction. Co-ordinates them with a synchronised sound track carrying music and a dramatised story. And creates... a journey back in time.

India's Son et Lumière shows at the Red Fort in New Delhi, the Gwalior Fort and the Madurai Palace enthral visitors. Not only because they're beautiful... but also because they embody a triumph of technology for Philips LiDEC. The Lighting Design and Engineering Centre that leaves no stone unturned. To bring the past to light.

Leaders in Decorative Floodlighting. Worldwide.

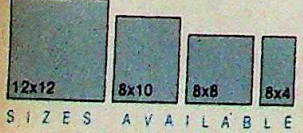
PHILIPS

HTA 2890

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

INTRODUCING 8x10 WALL AND FLOOR TILES FROM KAJARIA

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



SIZES AVAILABLE

in collaboration with
TODAGRES Spain

PERFECT FLOORS AND WALLS

Kajaria
Kajaria Ceramics
C-7, EAST OF KAILASH, NEW DELHI

• WIDE RANGE OF COLOURS AND DESIGNS • SIMPLE TO LAY (READY FOR USE IN 24 HOURS) • DURABLE • MAINTENANCE FREE • EASY TO CLEAN • COST

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

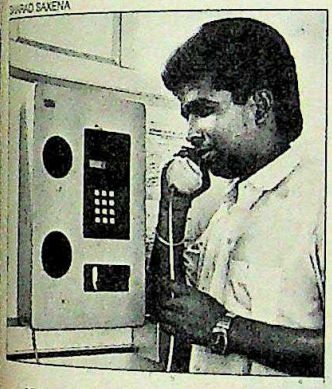
A New Tone

Hi-tech payphones are in

NEARLY four decades after the conspicuously black coin collection box was introduced in the country, the rush is on to ring in a range of payphones using the newest in electronics and microprocessors.

The first electronic payphone to be made in India is the state-of-the-art coin-operated machine of Omnitel Industries, Hyderabad. "It is capable of refunding the exact amount unutilised to the user but is not to be mistaken for a coin changer," emphasises Omnitel's

SHYAM SAXENA



New model: state-of-the-art

Managing Director P.L. Ananth Ram who got the technology from Japan's Anritsu company.

The 11 new payphones that will appear soon include:

▸ The Lokdoot, made with indigenous technology by Applied Electronics Limited (APLAB). It uses the smart card, which can be had for different initial payments and when inserted into the payphone, indicates the value left on the card. The card ejects after the call.

▸ The Usha Group is in the process of commissioning a joint venture with GEC Plessey Telecommunications Ltd to make payphones using smart cards and magnetic prepaid cards which are cheaper but can be duplicated.

More than 3,000 electronic payphones are to be installed by March next year. There will be a demand for 1,50,000 payphones by the turn of the century. With other electronic payphone makers beginning production in another year or two the days of the coin collecting black box are numbered. It's not going to be sorely missed.

—AMARNATH K. MENON

RURAL WINDOW BY MURAD ALI BAIG

Victims of Education

FEW realise that rural India today has about 120 million youths, aged between 15 and 24 years. Even discounting the more docile girls, they form a huge mass of restless, uncertain and badly educated boys, influenced by the vulgar values of films and videos. Most of them despise the life and values of their parents, and dream of a good life in the cities. A vision of cars, videos, wealth, grand houses, flashy females, violence and raucous laughter. They want to escape rural drudgery for a cushy city job.

"No job is possible without *sifarish* (pull) and lots of money," is the uniform refrain among all the lads I have met this year from Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. "Corruption has gone so deep that no laws or rules will have any effect," said Ashok, a typical example. "The political promise of a fundamental right to work will simply end up like the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana. Just more *sarkari* (government) jobs in the hands of more officials."

Ashok and his friends were among the 100-odd young lads in the 230, mostly Gujjar, households at Ghata, a small Haryana village tucked below the tumbled rocks of the Aravalli hills. Most were smart, intelligent and healthy but totally without purpose or direction. Many had dropped out after Standard VII or VIII. They would reluctantly help their fathers with their farming or cattle, but would slip off, whenever they could, to the excitements of the nearby towns.

Mahavir, the headmaster at the dilapidated government school, blamed the parents for spoiling their sons and not letting their daughters study beyond Standard V. Most fathers felt that more education would turn the heads of the girls and they would not do menial jobs like collecting cow dung or firewood.

The boys everywhere were unanimously of the view that the shallow education was useless and the teachers disinterested. They wanted to learn English which made it easier to get a job. They all wanted jobs. Not as mechanics or salesmen or for a contractor, but a respectable job in a factory or office or in the Government with regular

MURAD ALI BAIG

Ashok (centre) and friends

hours and little work.

Ghata had 25 Harijan households, most were *Hooka-pani* Harijans who did most of the masonry, carpentry, quarrying, pump repairs, electrical work and tailoring. They earned good money because no caste Hindu was ready to do these jobs. They could smoke a hooka or drink water with the other villagers, unlike the unclean sweeper or cobbler castes.

Every region has variations. Parental pressure is stronger in south India, but everyone, everywhere wants jobs, not work. There are few jobs, but still fewer willing to work. Frustration and anger are replacing politeness and the fading old values. This huge, excitable and unstable mass swells the flood of migrants to India's cities, victims of an education destined to make them unfit both for town and country. India has sown bitter seeds and may one day reap a bloody whirlwind.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Before you invest in **FinOlex**, ask:

Is it true that the demand for PVC by 1994-95 is estimated at 485,000 tpa?

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Finolex is setting up a 100,000 tpa
emical project to manufacture
Resin.

PVC is today increasingly replacing
wood, glass and metal in many
s and finds wide applications. Wall
coverings. Artificial leather.
Doors. Windows. Furniture.
belts. Sealing compounds.
body car protection. Cables and
ns. Pipes and pipe fittings... and
ore!

And this wonder thermoplastic is in
ply. At present, the demand-
gap is estimated at 96,000 tpa.
demand by 1994-95:
tpa (According to the D.V. Kapoor
Report on Perspective Planning
chemicals).

Reason why Finolex is setting up a
crore project to manufacture
sin. At Ranpar (Pawas Bay), a
notified 'B' category backward
Ratnagiri District, Maharashtra.

This strategic backward integration
% of production will be captively
by Finolex Pipes Ltd. and
Cables Ltd.) is also India's major
ards self-reliance in PVC-Resin
and in saving foreign exchange

The answer to the question is now
THE DEMAND WILL OUTSTRIP
Y.

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

The Finolex Tradition

- A leading Rigid PVC Pipes and Fittings manufacturing company
- Track record of uninterrupted dividends
- Winner of 'Top Exporter Award' for the last 5 years

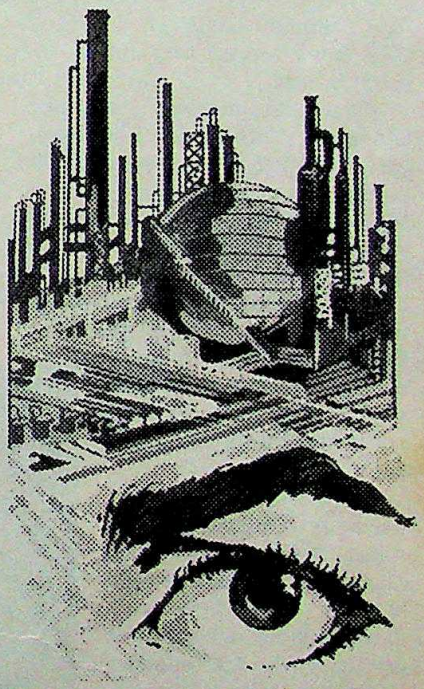
The Petrochemicals Project

- Project to manufacture 100,000 tpa of PVC-Resin, incorporating the internationally renowned Hoechst technology
- Demand-supply gap estimated at 135,000 tpa by 1994-95 based on sanctioned licensed capacity
- Import substitutive product
- Location entitling the Company to several concessions including Pioneer Status with Sales Tax benefit for 10 years

The Issue

- **An opportunity to acquire Finolex shares at Rs. 15 each**
- **Convertible Debentures with interest @ 14% p.a.**
- **Conversion close to commencement of production**

If the Company does not receive the minimum subscription of 90% of the issued amount, the entire subscription will be refunded to the applicants within 90 days from the closure of this Issue. If there is a delay in refund of such amount by more than one week, the Company will pay interest at 15% per annum for the delayed period.



Rs 79,30,000 14% Secured Redeemable Convertible Debentures
Rs 150 each for cash at par aggregating Rs. 118,95,00,000

LEAD MANAGERS TO THE ISSUE

The Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Limited
Merchant Banking Division
163, Backbay Reclamation
Bombay 400 020

SBI Capital Markets Limited
202, Maker Towers 'E'
20th Floor, Cuffe Parade
Bombay 400 005

CANBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LTD.
(A wholly owned subsidiary of Canara Bank)
Capital Markets Group
115, Atlanta, 11th floor
Nariman Point, Bombay 400 021

J.M. Financial & Investment Consultancy Services Ltd.
141, Maker Chambers III
13th floor, Nariman Point
Bombay 400 021

ISSUE OPENS ON 19TH SEPTEMBER, 1990

Finolex Pipes Limited

With an eye to the future

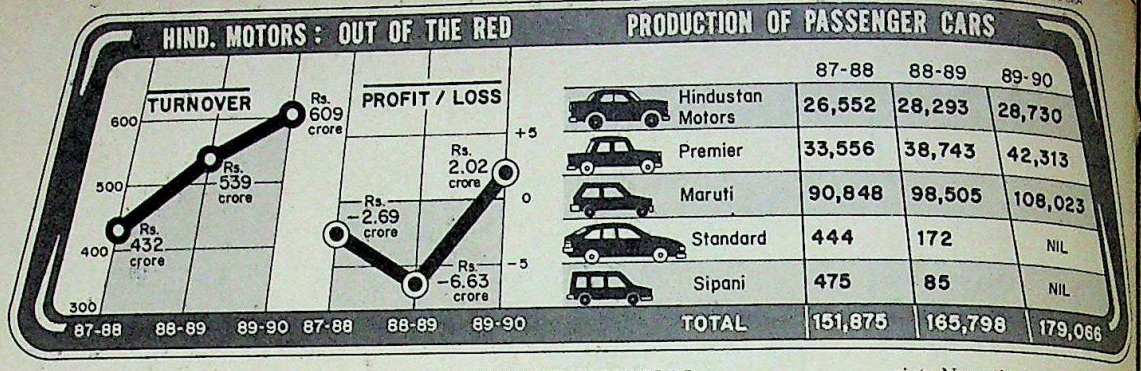
Regd. Office: MIDC, Chinchwad, Pune 411 019.

CLEA/806/FPL

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Chart by B.K. SHARMA



PRODUCTION OF PASSENGER CARS

	87-88	88-89	89-90
Hindustan Motors	26,552	28,293	28,730
Premier	33,556	38,743	42,313
Maruti	90,848	98,505	108,023
Standard	444	172	NIL
Sipani	475	85	NIL
TOTAL	151,875	165,798	179,066

HINDUSTAN MOTORS

Comeback Drive

Aggressive plans to perk up sales

FOR years, the Birla-controlled Hindustan Motors churned out a product that came to symbolise the inefficiency of Indian industry: the Ambassador car. But the sturdy vehicle—which the company claims is ideally suited to potholed Indian roads—has proved to be a survivor. After sustaining losses for two consecutive years Hindustan Motors declared a modest profit of Rs 2.02 crore for 1989-90. And its share price, which had slumped to Rs 20 last year, rose to a more healthy Rs 52 last fortnight. Says company Chairman G.P. Birla: "We have turned the corner—the worst is over."

That optimism may be premature. Hindustan Motors' share of the passenger car market, once 70 per cent, has come down to 16 per cent. Last year, the company's market share remained static but profitability improved with the demand for its upmarket car, Contessa Classic, picking up. Capacity utilisation at its Uttarpara plant near Calcutta continued to hover around 50 per cent and the rise in output is lower than the growth rate of the overall car market (*see chart*).

The 48-year-old automobile veteran, however, takes solace from the fact that Maruti, the market leader, still has no car fitted with diesel engines whereas 40 per cent of the Ambassadors manufactured by Hindustan Motors have diesel engines. Another factor which has boosted the company's morale—and its bottom line—is its continuing domination of the 'taxi segment' of the car market where its market share is said to be a staggering 90 per cent. Says S.L. Bhatter, president, Hindustan Motors: "In some areas, especially the hilly and mofussil regions, Maruti Omnis are used as taxis but this has made only a marginal inroad into our market."

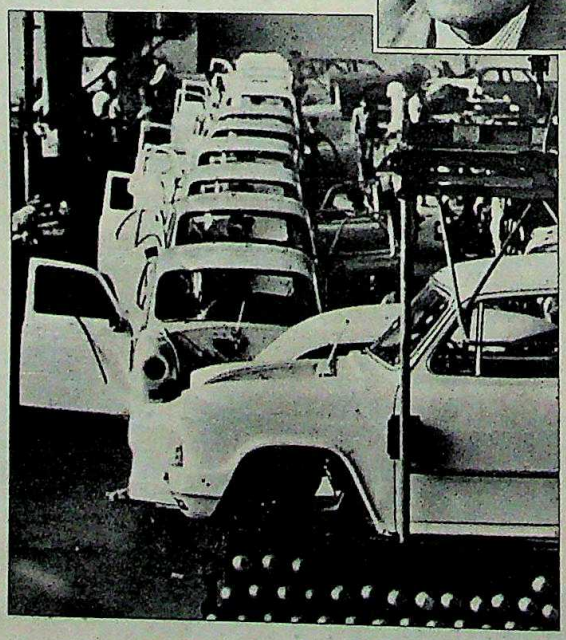
Meanwhile, to meet the Maruti onslaught, the company plans to improve the Ambassador. By October, claims Bhatter, it will have a redesigned steering and suspension system. And by the end of 1991, the car should have an improved engine and transmission system—being designed by Ricardo of UK—which is supposed to enhance fuel efficiency by 20 per cent. Birla claims that the price will remain the same.

Still, other snags persist. Negotiations with General Motors of the US for a more modern vehicle have gone on for an inordinately long time. Asked to explain the reasons for the delay, Birla cautiously remarks: "The process is complicated because we must have duty concessions for importing components. And given the country's foreign exchange reserves, there will have to be an export commitment." He refuses to commit himself to a launch date, though there seems to be a realisation in the company that time is running out.

That's because competition is certain to intensify. Telco has ambitious plans to produce a passenger car. Then the new Maruti 1000—which is expected to hit the market later this year—may eat into the market share of the Contessa. However, a senior company official argues that the Maruti 1000 will be priced at over Rs 3.5 lakh, nearly Rs 1 lakh higher than the current price of a Contessa, and so won't be much of a challenge.

The company's rivals are not so certain that things will be all that hunky-dory. Warns an industry analyst: "Whatever the Birlas may claim, Hindustan Motors is still in a corner and unless it manages to bring out its new car quickly, its market share will go down further." Birla brushes aside such objections: "Our marketing approach is becoming increasingly aggressive and you will be surprised to see the results." Deeds, hopefully, will match the brave talk being put up by the old hands of Uttarpara.

—UTTAM SENGUPTA



Assembly line; (inset) G.P. Birla: looking up

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ELEGANT FACES ARE ALWAYS BORN WITH CHARACTER

More than just a gorgeous treat for your eyes. The new exquisite range of dress watches from HMT. Elegance. With matching bracelets. Elegance is excellence of Quartz technology assuming a new refined look of sleekness. Thin, sculptural cases. Plus, all the characteristic values of HMT. Like intelligent engineering. And nationwide after sale care centres. Elegance. Pure culture sets it apart from the rest.

Elegance

The · Fine · Art · Of · Time

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

hmt
QUARTZ

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

THE SUNDAY MAIL CLUB

THEIR WEEK IS MADE OF MORE THAN DAILY AFFAIRS.

The Sunday Mail reader forms part of an exclusive group that reads more than just newspaper columns on worldly happenings. A club that can analyse and dwell on subjects more deeply. Thanks to the well researched and carefully analysed write-ups of Sunday Mail. To its exclusive tie-ups with Lee Iacocca, Girilal Jain, Issac Asimov, and the US News and World Report.

THE FIRST AND ONLY NATIONAL WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

Sunday Mail is the only paper to be published from Delhi,Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. Linking you with the rest of the world like never before.

THE COMPLETE SUNDAY READING

Sunday Mail has something for everybody —In depth news, stories, columns on sports, corporate news, science and nature, entertainment, lifestyle et al. Plus an exclusive "people's" magazine.

MORE VALUE FOR MONEY, MORE THAN JUST-A-WEEKLY

When you buy a Sunday Mail, you bring home a
12 page broadsheet newspaper
+ a 4 page glossy supplement
+ a 48 page colour magazine

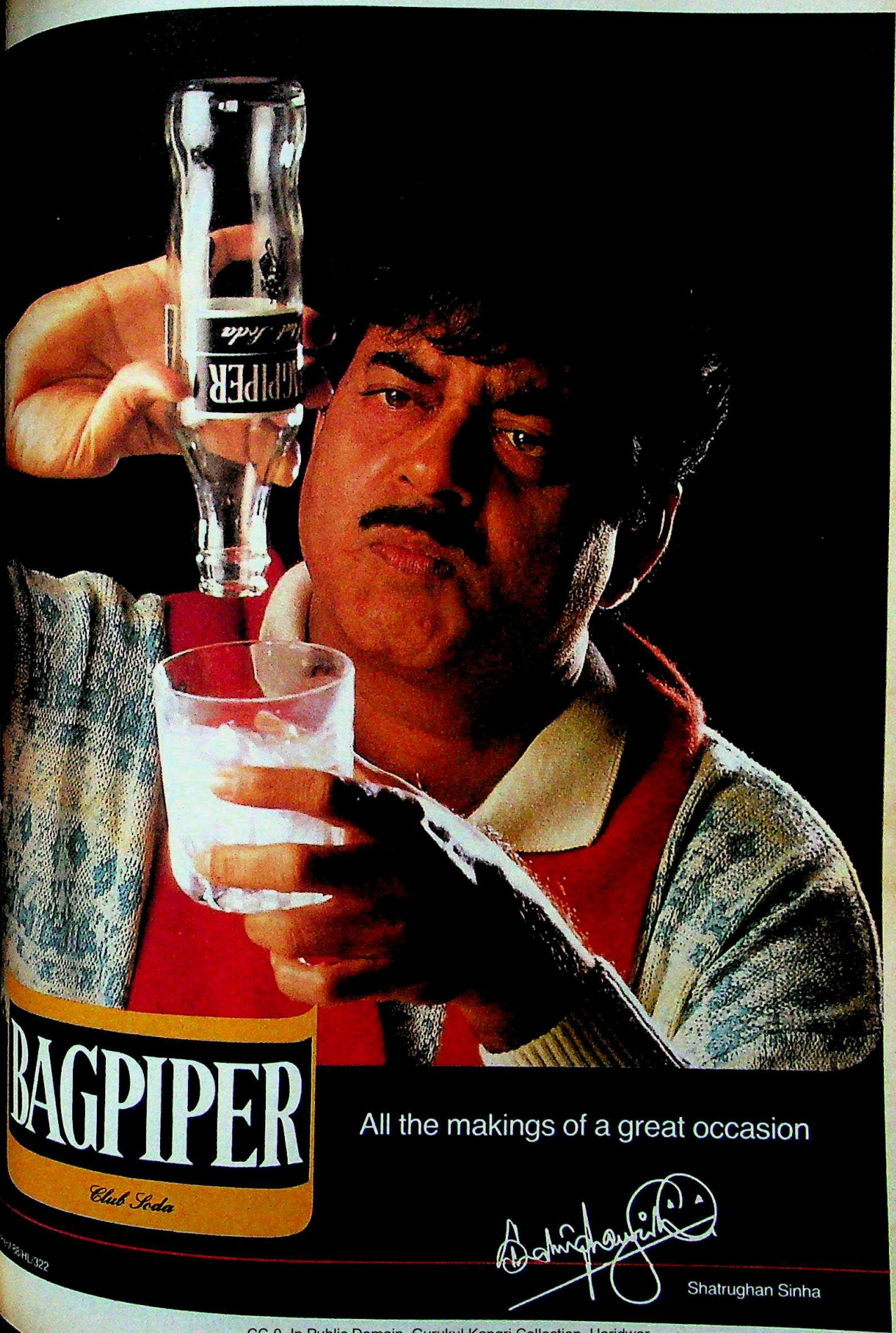
SUNDAY MAIL
INCORPORATING COLOUR MAGAZINE
MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR SUNDAY.

ASK FOR YOUR COPY FROM YOUR NEWSAGENT OR WRITE TO,
THE CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT AT:—

DELHI: C-43, NEETI BAGH, NEW DELHI-110049 TEL: 663243, 652916, 652923
BOMBAY: 1ST FLOOR, KUSHESH MANSION, 48/54, JANMABHOOMI MARG, FORT, BOMBAY-400001. TEL: 2047938, 233593, 225713
CALCUTTA: FLAT NO. 5 & 6, CHITRAKOOT BUILDING, IIND FLOOR, 230-A, A.J.C. BOSE ROAD, CALCUTTA-700 020. TEL: 433247, 441017
MADRAS: 204-C, SHIVALAYA BUILDING, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF ROAD, MADRAS-600105. TEL: 471091

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

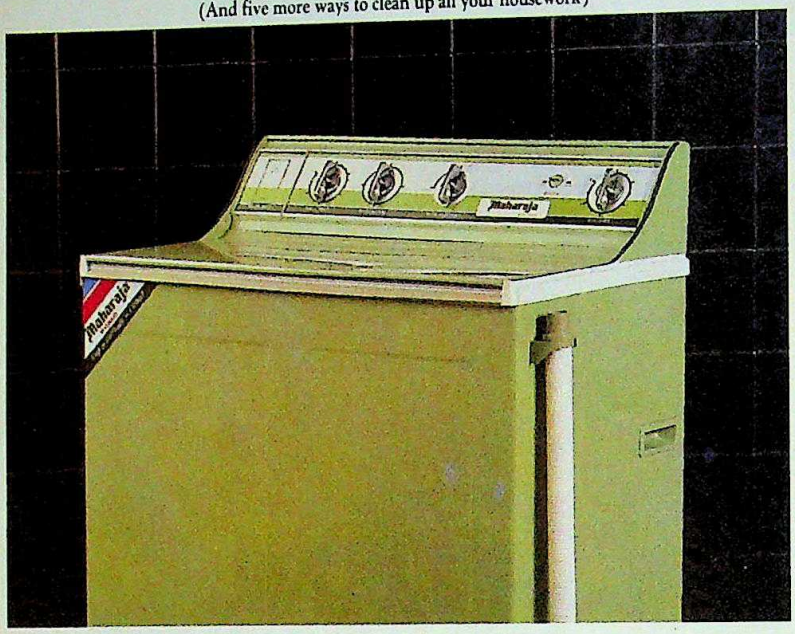


CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

The Maharaja solution to finding the perfect washing machine

(And five more ways to clean up all your housework)



Whatever the house chore, there's a Maharaja for it. And no matter how big your workload is, Maharaja handles it better.

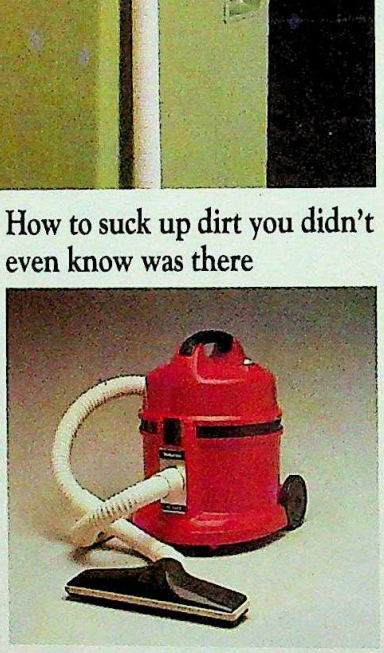
Washing curtains without tears

The Maharaja Washaid. A powerhouse motor that can run 3 hours non-stop and clean anything from lace to curtains. Choice of wash, rinse and drying timings and actions. **Special buzz alarm.** Unique inclined impeller for maximum cleaning. Double water inlets. **And castors.** All in a rugged, scratchproof steel body.

Not a wrinkle in sight

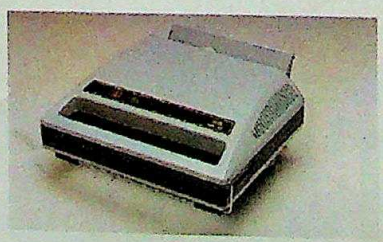
The Maharaja Auto Iron. Instant heating facility. 3 variable temperatures. Super-efficient spray attachment. Shockproof body.

How to suck up dirt you didn't even know was there



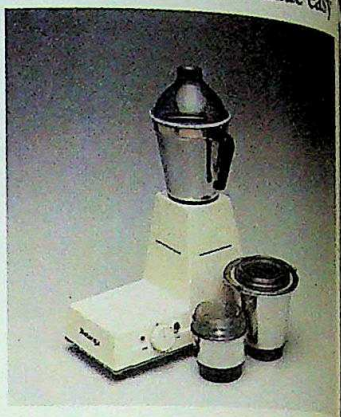
The Maharaja Vacuum Cleaner. 30% more sucking power. Eight litre storage capacity. Impact resistant ABS body on wheels.

Instant designer sandwiches



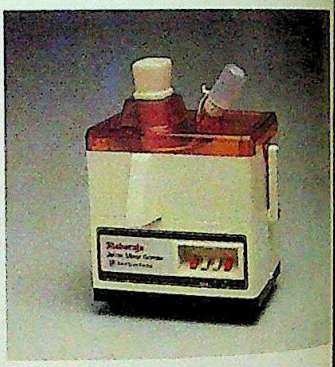
The supreme Sandwich Toaster. Futuristic design. Thermostatic auto cut-off.

The five-course meal made easy



The Maharaja Mixer-Grinder. Heavy duty motor. An incredible 60 minutes non-stop running time. **Three jars.** Unbreakable casing. Indestructible motor coupling.

The health wave starts here



The Maharaja Juicer Blender. A super-tough, super-fast motor and a handy self-cleaner.

Maharaja home products are designed with your needs in mind, to world standards. And we know, as you do, that its the little details that make a big difference. So the next time you're looking for a home appliance, pick one from the Maharaja range shown here. We guarantee it will be the beginning of a lifetime relationship.

For further enquiries :

Maharaja International Ltd. Post Box No. 2866
New Delhi. 110060

Maharaja
WHITELINE
APPLIANCES

They'll go through anything to keep you happy.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

THE MARKETS

Booming On

Bullish phase continues

THE mood in the stock-markets may best be described as bull-headed: the market for pivotals and cash shares continued to stubbornly spiral upwards despite the imposition of severe trading restrictions by stock exchange authorities. Modest offloading of shares by certain financial institutions and mutual funds notwithstanding, the volume of business grew as investment buying of shares continued unabated. The Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) 30-share Sensitive Index continued its relentless march upwards to hit a new high of 1,274.40 before settling down to close the fortnight at 1,255.72. That represented a 66 per cent increase over the January 2 figure of 774.50.

Earlier in the fortnight, on September 4, S.S. Nadkarni, chairman, Industrial Development Bank of India "advised" mutual funds and financial institutions to avoid making heavy purchases in what he called an over-heated market and suggested that it was the duty of the institutions and the mutual funds to keep the market under control. Not all agree, and analysts feel that heavy unloading of shares at the prevailing prices may not be possible given the tight controls that have been imposed.

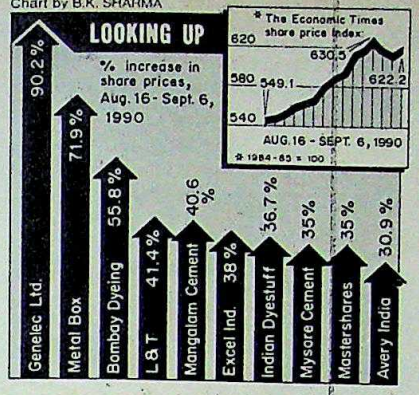
The institution's aim may have been to curb speculation. But irrational speculation is not the only factor that is pushing the stock-market to its current high.

Trading sentiment has also been boosted by reports that the Industry Ministry has forecast a 10-per cent growth in industrial production for the current fiscal year, despite the poor investment climate in the first quarter of the year. The forecast for 1990-91 exceeds the growth rate of 8.8 per cent for 1988-89 and 8.4 per cent for 1989-90. The excellent monsoon has, of course, contributed its share to buoying up sentiment.

ACC continued its precipitous climb to close the fortnight at Rs 1,850 (up 30 per cent or Rs 450 in just two trading sessions) with news of excellent half-yearly results likely to be announced. Mukand was another star performer closing the week at Rs 185 (up from Rs 166.25) with news that the company's turnover is likely to touch Rs 650 crore (up from Rs 527 crore). Other high fliers were Tata Power, Reliance Industries, Gujarat Ambuja Cements, Hoechst, Larsen & Toubro, Bombay Dyeing, Bajaj Auto and Procter & Gamble.

The forecast is that the market is likely to peak just before Diwali, and then take off again with the BSE Sensitive Index likely to touch the 1,500 mark by the end of the year. For the present, the boom seems all set to continue unabated with the stock-market determined to ignore all unfavourable news, both on the political and foreign fronts.

Chart by B.K. SHARMA



ACTIVE STOCKS

	1990 HIGH	LOW	CLOSE 6.9.90	Change in Fortnight
Ashok Leyland	126.50	69.50	114.00	1.00 +
Associated Cement	1660.00	325.00	1625.00	250.00 + *
Asian Paints	305.00	207.50	272.50	17.50 +
Atlas Copco	68.00	32.50	58.00	9.50 +
Bajaj Auto	710.00	355.00	690.00	100.00 +
Baroda Rayon	1925.00	617.50	1700.00	200.00 +
Birla India	98.00	62.50	95.00	16.00 +
Bulharpur	276.00	120.00	273.00	45.00 + *
Birla Jute	161.00	50.50	154.00	14.00 +
Blow Plast	96.25	34.50	87.50	2.50 +
Bombay Dyeing	412.50	173.00	392.50	102.50 +
Britannia Ind.	167.00	97.00	160.00	20.00 +
Brooke Bond	151.00	91.00	149.00	9.00 +
Cadbury India	192.50	133.75	172.50	5.00 –
Century Textiles	4550.00	2420.00	4175.00	75.00 –
Colgate Palmolive	325.00	176.25	317.50	22.50 +
Crisamid	135.00	87.50	120.00	10.00 +
CCM	126.00	45.50	113.50	1.50 +
Dhanbop	90.00	51.75	84.50	12.50 +
D.L. Rolels	65.25	50.00	55.00	5.00 –
Escorts	140.00	77.75	133.50	10.50 +
Finolex Cables	410.00	200.00	325.00	55.00 – *
Gujarat Nylon	70.00	48.00	60.00	1.00 +
G.E. Shipping	54.75	39.50	43.50	1.25 + *
G.N.F.C.	275.00	155.00	257.50	32.50 +
Gwalior Ind.	215.00	106.00	198.75	20.75 +
Hindal. Aluminium	417.50	205.00	290.00	80.00 – **
HMM. Ciba	1900.00	960.00	1750.00	100.00 + *
Hindustan Lever	160.00	101.00	150.00	5.00 –
Hindustan Motors	54.25	19.80	53.50	6.00 + *
Hoechst	3300.00	1295.00	3150.00	150.00 + *
ICI India Ltd.	69.00	35.25	60.50	12.50 +
Indian Organic	90.00	46.50	80.00	6.00 + *
Indian Rayon	170.00	84.00	155.00	3.00 +
Indorama	315.00	161.25	275.00	26.25 + *

* Ex-dividend ** Ex-bonus

	1990 HIGH	LOW	CLOSE 6.9.90	Change in Fortnight
Ingersoll-Rand	295.00	190.00	290.00	2.50 +
ITC	148.00	48.75	135.00	10.00 +
J.K. Synthetics	90.00	50.00	77.00	2.00 –
Kinetic Engineering	230.00	130.00	217.50	25.00 +
Kirloskar Cummins	125.00	65.00	111.25	18.75 + *
KSB Pumps	240.00	175.00	230.00	10.00 +
Larsen & Toubro	171.00	57.00	151.25	35.25 + *
Lipton	112.00	73.00	95.00	10.00 +
LML Ltd.	57.50	15.00	53.00	13.00 +
Madura Coats	190.00	100.50	180.00	30.00 +
M&M	107.50	67.50	97.50	5.00 +
Milk Food	280.00	115.00	170.00	5.00 –
Motor Industries	1400.00	780.00	1200.00	200.00 +
Mukand Ltd.	190.00	127.00	166.25	7.25 + *
National Organic	1900.00	1070.00	1750.00	200.00 +
Nestle India	150.00	101.75	130.00	nil
Nirlon	38.00	13.00	31.00	5.00 +
Orkay Silk Mills	43.00	14.50	37.50	1.50 +
Peico Electronics	75.00	24.00	61.00	9.00 – *
Pfizer	113.75	72.50	82.50	5.00 + *
Premier Auto	83.00	53.50	65.00	3.00 –
Raymond	120.00	70.00	109.00	5.00 –
Reckitt & Colman	260.00	178.00	249.00	1.00 –
Reliance Industries	199.00	50.00	160.00	21.50 – *
Siemens India	139.00	96.00	122.50	5.50 – *
Shaw Wallace	122.00	65.00	111.00	11.00 +
Shriram Fibres	74.00	43.00	70.00	8.50 +
SKF Bearings	2500.00	1240.00	2325.00	325.00 +
SPIC	81.00	50.75	72.50	8.50 + *
Tata Steel	170.00	103.25	167.00	16.00 +
Telco	250.00	110.00	235.00	15.00 +
Vam Organic	205.00	115.00	190.00	15.00 +
Videocon Int.	340.00	105.00	317.50	42.50 +
Voltas	140.00	63.00	137.50	20.00 +
Wimco	52.50	15.75	40.00	9.00 +

WORLD VALUE OF RUPEE

COUNTRY	CURRENCY	UNIT	TT Selling Rates Rs	TT Buying Rates Rs
Australia	Dollar	1	14.6025	14.4444
Austria	Shilling	100	159.7974	159.0710
Bahrain	Dinar	1	47.1143	46.0469
Bangladesh	Taka	100	51.2111	49.9938
Canada	Dollar	1	15.3393	15.1851
Denmark	Kroner	1	2.9854	2.9344
Egypt	Pound	1	6.6420	6.5290
France	Franc	1	3.4305	3.3445
Hong Kong	Dollar	1	2.2747	2.2526
Indonesia	Rupiah	100	0.9550	0.9407
Iran	Rial	100	25.5368	25.2559
Italy	Lira	100	1.5205	1.5032
Japan	Yen	100	12.5945	12.2850
Kenya	Shilling	1	0.7783	0.7691
Kuwait	Dinar	1	60.2998	58.3260
Malaysia	Dollar	1	6.5802	6.5145
Mauritius	Rupee	1	1.2312	1.2151
Nepal	Rupee	1	0.6167	0.6086
Netherlands	Guilder	1	10.0671	9.9617
Pakistan	Rupee	1	0.8180	0.8082
Singapore	Dollar	1	10.1017	9.9988
Spain	Peseta	1	0.1803	0.1780
Sri Lanka	Rupee	1	0.4428	0.4374
Sweden	Kroner	1	3.0829	3.0516
Switzerland	Franc	1	13.6642	13.5223
Tanzania	Shilling	1	0.0955	0.0921
Thailand	Baht	100	70.1105	68.3508
UK	Pound	1	33.7325	33.4896
USA	Dollar	1	17.6678	17.4978
UAE	Dirham	1	4.8128	4.7626
USSR	Rouble	1	28.4736	28.1768
W. Germany	Deutschmark	1	11.4943	11.2108

These rates were supplied by The Bank of Tokyo Limited, New Delhi and quoted between the banks on 6.9.90.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

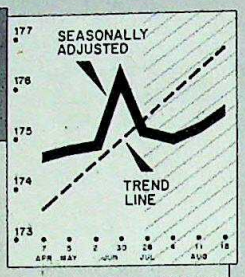
There's mixed news on the economic front. With credit and money supply showing an expansion, industrial production picked up slightly. However, much more money needs to be pumped into the system, in order to remove both demand and supply constraints on industry. On the trade front, figures were disappointing. Exporters clearly need greater incentives if they are to compete more effectively in foreign markets.

All data are seasonally adjusted. Current trends are computed on the basis of six months' (weekly data) or one-and-a-half years' (monthly data) figures.

Wholesale Price Index

1981-82 = 100

Current Trend
5.0% p.a.

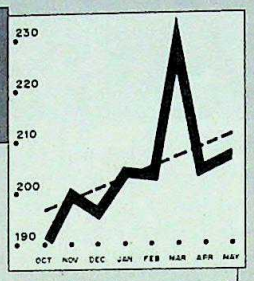


The index of wholesale prices exhibited continued stability despite the expansionary monetary policy.

Industrial Production Index

1982 = 100

Current Trend
12.4% p.a.

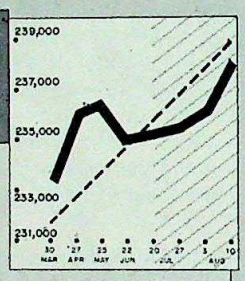


Industrial production exhibited some signs of revival—consistent long-term policies are needed for sustained industrial growth.

Money Supply

Rs Crore

Current Trend
8.3% p.a.

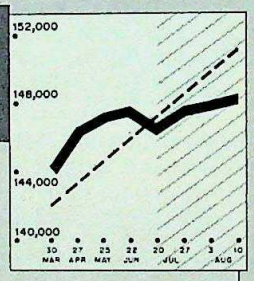


Money supply jumped up last fortnight. However, the current trend indicates room for further expansion.

Commercial Bank Credit

Rs Crore

Current Trend
17.0% p.a.

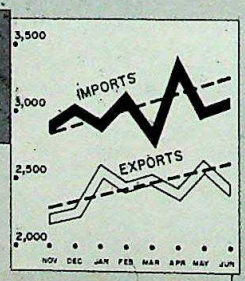


Commercial bank credit registered an increase. For industry, looking for more funds, this should provide a boost.

Foreign Trade

Rs Crore

Current Trend
23.1% p.a. EXPORTS
25.2% p.a. IMPORTS

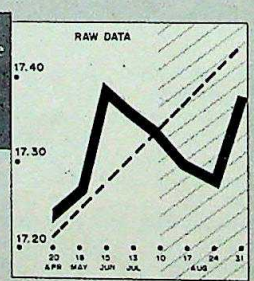


With exports falling and imports rising, some serious export incentives are needed to manage the trade deficit.

Foreign Exchange Rate

Rs per US$

Current Trend
3.5% p.a.

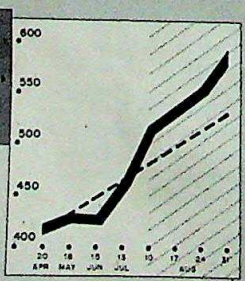


The slight devaluation last week, after a mild appreciation of the rupee, should give exports an impetus.

Share Price Index

1984-85 = 100

Current Trend
67.2% p.a.



Share prices continued their sharp upward trend. Since industry is in a slump, is this a sign of a speculatory bubble?

Electricity Generation

Million kWh

Current Trend
8.5% p.a.

Electricity generation was down again—shortage of this key input will constrain industry further.

WHOLESALE PRICES

Growth of items in the 1st fortnight of August 1990

	% Growth
Oranges	8.56
Coffee	5.93
Betel-Nuts	5.78
Cashew-Nut	5.08
Iron Ore	4.37
Turmeric	4.01
Groundnut Oilcake	3.64
Bajra	3.03
Transformers	2.62
Gingelly Seed	2.58
Cotton Seeds	2.51
Moong	2.23
Pete Crude & Natural Gas	2.04
Cotton Raw	1.96
Hides Raw	1.91
Meat	1.78
Tubes	1.63
Machine Tools	1.61
Coconut Oil	1.60
Milk	1.43
Copra	1.40
Aviation Spirit	1.32
Silk & Artificial Fabrics	1.24
Mining Machinery	1.12
Jute textile Machinery	1.12
Trucks	0.99
Buses	0.98
Ball Bearing	0.88
Coir Yarn	0.87
Cement	0.87
Nitrogenous Fertilizers	0.84
Atta	0.83
Plywood	0.81
Tractors	0.80
Handloom & Powerloom Products	0.79
Zinc	0.76
Rubber	0.74
Lubricating Oil	0.70
Limestone	0.69
Pipes & Tubes	0.66
Gingelly Oil	0.62
Tobacco & Other Tobacco Products	0.61
Electrical Motors	0.59
Woollen Cloth & Woollen Khadi	0.55
Cars	0.53
Bolts & Nuts	0.52
Sugarcane	0.49

Of the 134 series considered, 78 of them with a total weight of 39.083 had a non-negative rate of growth and 56 of them with a total weight of 45.769 had a negative rate of growth.

SELECTED INDICATORS

	1990	1989
Petroleum Crude Thousand Tonnes, July	2838	2832
Petroleum Refinery Products Thousand Tonnes, July	4511	4584
Letters of Intent Numbers, July	593	714
Industrial Licences Numbers, July	213	278
Electrical Generated Million kWh, July	21533	19170

Compiled by THE POLICY GROUP

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

"I'll take the wall!"

Special Effects

Special Effects
Special Wall Finish

The Masterpiece
By Jenson & Nicholson

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

"RISE, SIR LEGEND"

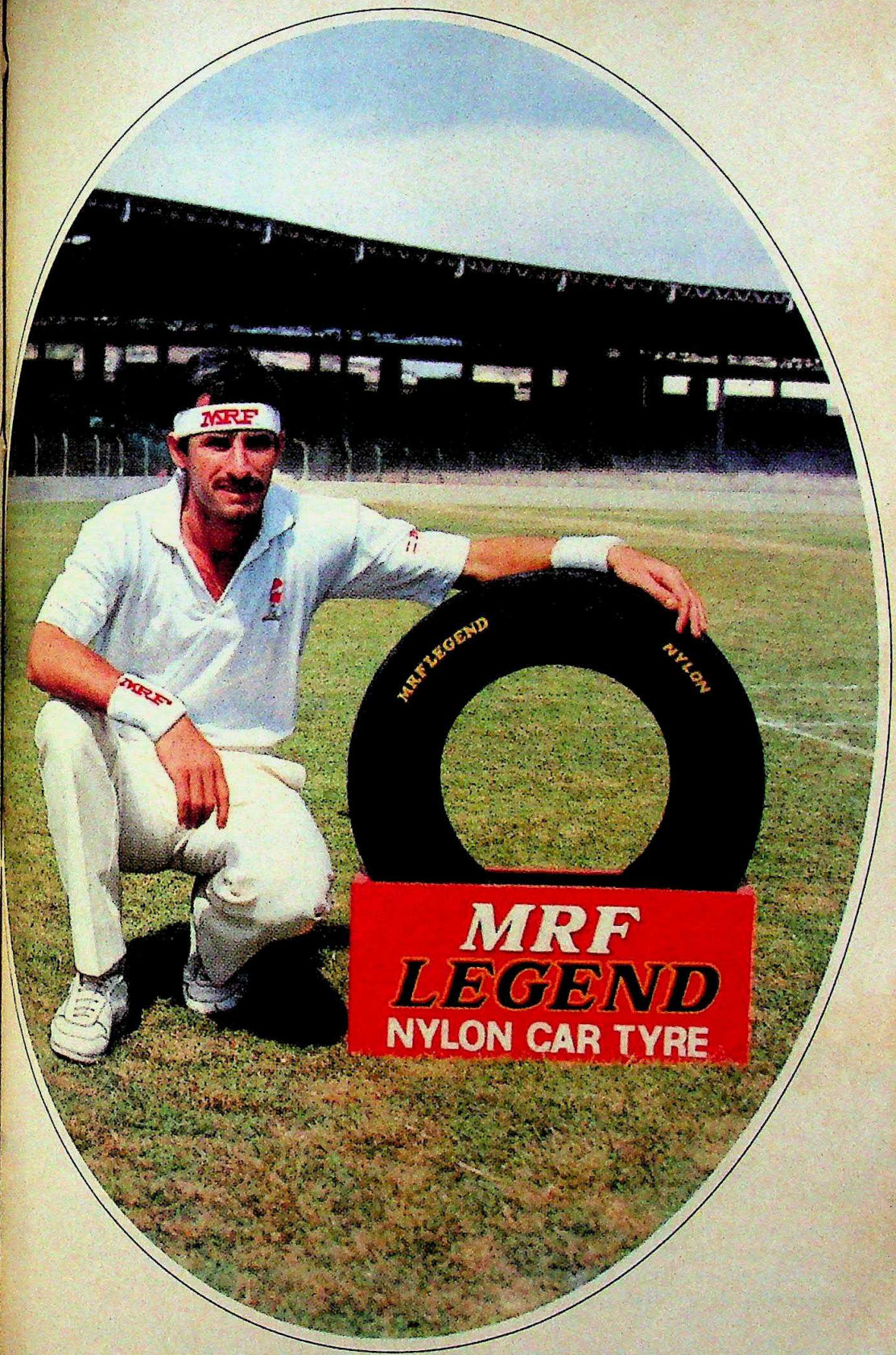
MRF CONGRATULATES SIR RICHARD HADLEE ON HIS KNIGHTHOOD

And on Indian roads, MRF Legend continues to be India's favourite car tyre

Whichever field they're on, legends are recognised for their outstanding performances. On June 16th, 1982 Richard Hadlee became the only cricketer to be knighted while still on the field. Meanwhile, back in India, MRF Legend keeps proving itself on the toughest roads all over the country. Which just goes to show that once you have a legend, you have a winner.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

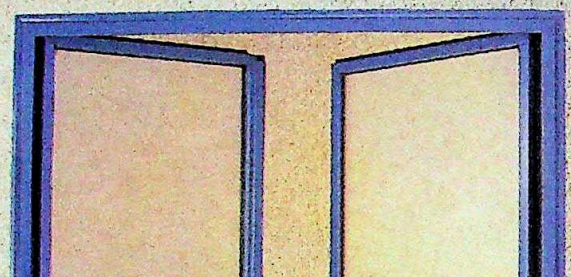


LINTAS M MRF FHP 216 2436

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

EXPEL



THE RECURRING BOTHER OF REPAIRING AND REPAINTING

With the maintenance-free

Seccolor Window

- Quick and easy installation.
- Option of hinged or sliding shutters, burglar bars and mosquito mesh.
- Available in Red, Blue, White, Brown and Beige.
- Windows, Partitions, Doors, Railings.

Write for a detailed colour brochure

Seccolor

Seccolor Window Systems liberate you from the traditional window problems. Made of special, pre-painted steel, they are rust-proof for life and require no repainting. Having perimetral weather-stripping, they seal out water, dust and noise. Being precision engineered, they open and shut perfectly without a whisper. Over the years you'd forget their existence, if they weren't so stunning.

NCL Seccolor Ltd (In collaboration with Industrie Secco S.p.A. of Italy) Raghava Ratna Towers, Chirag Ali Lane, Hyderabad - 500 001. Tel: 240562/241769.

Offices: BOMBAY: Tel: 527940; BANGALORE: Tel: 234858; MADRAS: Tel: 8252642; DELHI: Tel: 654041/616887.

Fabricators: AHMEDABAD: Tel: 445969/409012; BOMBAY: Tel: 595973/500827; BANGALORE: Tel: 568979; COIMBATORE: - NEW DELHI: Tel: 654041; HYDERABAD: Tel: 242590/895543/236882/236878; MADRAS: Tel: 8252642; VIJAYAWADA: Tel: 74410; VISAKHAPATNAM: Tel: 57020/57796; BHUBANESHWAR: Tel: 57367; CALCUTTA: Tel: 755265.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

INDIAN NAVY

In Choppy Waters

Loss of ship points to maintenance problems

FOR the Indian Navy, the loss of *INS Andaman*, one of its seven Soviet-built Petya class patrol boats, late in August, represents a major setback. For, with the sinking of the ship, 150 nautical miles off Visakhapatnam, the navy not only suffered a weakening of its anti-submarine arm, it also lost its enviable reputation for optimally and innovatively using its equipment.

Before the *Andaman* episode, the navy had lost only one ship, *INS Khukri*— and that during the 1971 war. "The sinking of a warship during peace time is disgraceful," asserts a former senior naval officer.

The tragedy unfolded on the evening of August 20 when the 950-tonne *Andaman*, and five other warships, including its sister ship *INS Arnala*; *INS Himgiri* and *INS Dunagiri* (two Indian made Leander class frigates); *INS Trishul* (a Whitby class frigate); and *INS Magar* (a massive landing ship) began an anti-submarine warfare exercise on their return journey to Visakhapatnam from the Andamans.

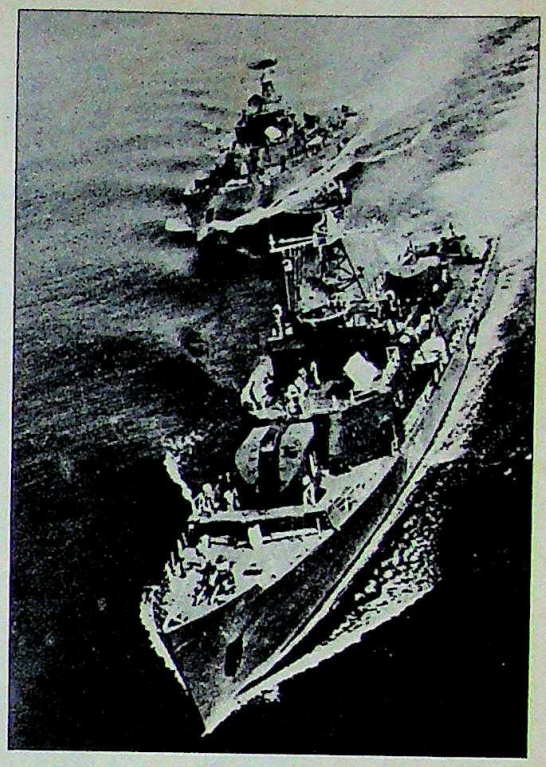
Late in the evening *Andaman's* Commanding Officer, Commander Ashok Diwan, reported a small leak in the aft steering position. This was reported as a matter of course to the Eastern Fleet Commander, Rear Admiral P.S. Dass on board *Dunagiri*, and to the Flag Officer Commanding-in-chief Eastern Naval Command, Vice Admiral L.Ramdas, on *Magar*. *Andaman*, however, continued in the exercise.

A few hours later, the intake of water increased and spread to the engine room. At this juncture the 4,000 HP main diesel engine stopped and the ship lost all power.

Andaman's Commander Diwan, reported his status and asked permission to drop out of the exercise and carry out repairs. The flooding and engine shutdown was considered routine and Diwan was allowed to stay back while the rest of the fleet steamed on.

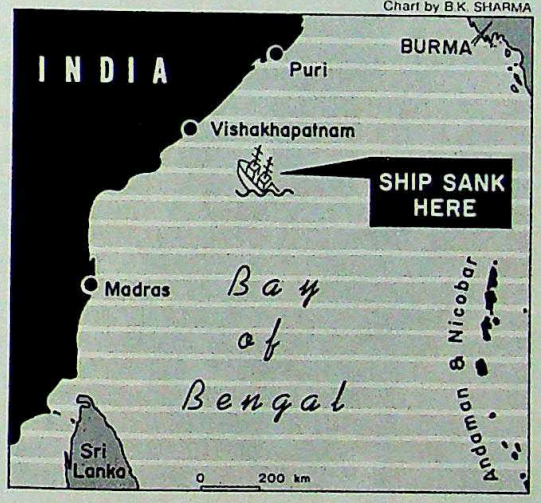
In the early hours of August 21, as the waves swelled to a height of 3 to 4 metres, Diwan reported they were unable to repair the fault and asked for a tow. *INS Trishul* dropped back to tow the stricken ship and was later joined by *INS Himgiri*. The rest of the fleet headed for Visakhapatnam.

Soon the engine room, the largest compartment of the ship, was completely flooded. Then the water spread to the aft portion and around noon, the stern began to submerge. An hour later, the order to abandon ship was given. Most of the crew jumped overboard and were picked up by the accompanying ships. At around three minutes after 2 p.m. the 16-year-old *INS Andaman* sank stern first into the Bay of Bengal. Fifteen of its crew lost their lives.



INS Andaman (in the background): costly lapse

Chart by B.K. SHARMA



While the exact cause of the incident is still under investigation, the *Andaman* disaster has raised many basic questions. One is the inability of the crew to limit the flooding to one compartment and prevent the ingress of water. Another worry is the deferred maintenance of the ships. *INS Andaman*, for instance, was due for a year-long medium refit last year but could not be accommodated in the dockyard schedule. Says a senior navy official: "Our maintenance is under great strain as we have to maintain a large number of ships."

To compound matters, the Petyas, intended to patrol the Soviet coast have been built to withstand the sea conditions prevailing there. Thus, they have only a 5 mm hull, compared to the 8 mm hulls of Indian ships (built to British Navy specifications), and are far more susceptible to corrosion in the Indian Ocean. So the two dockyards at Bombay and Visakhapatnam have to hold ships of Soviet-make for longer, which means refits of other ships have to be deferred.

Also, the navy's desire to make available more ships for operations sometimes forces the dockyards to carry out temporary refits instead of complete overhauls. For instance, the *Andaman* was fitted with a doubler plate on its hull as a stop-gap arrangement. Officials feel the doubler plate's coming off may be one cause for the *Andaman's* flooding. Clearly, the navy has grown too fast for maintenance to keep up and, in future, it may have to opt for a smaller but totally ship-shape fleet.

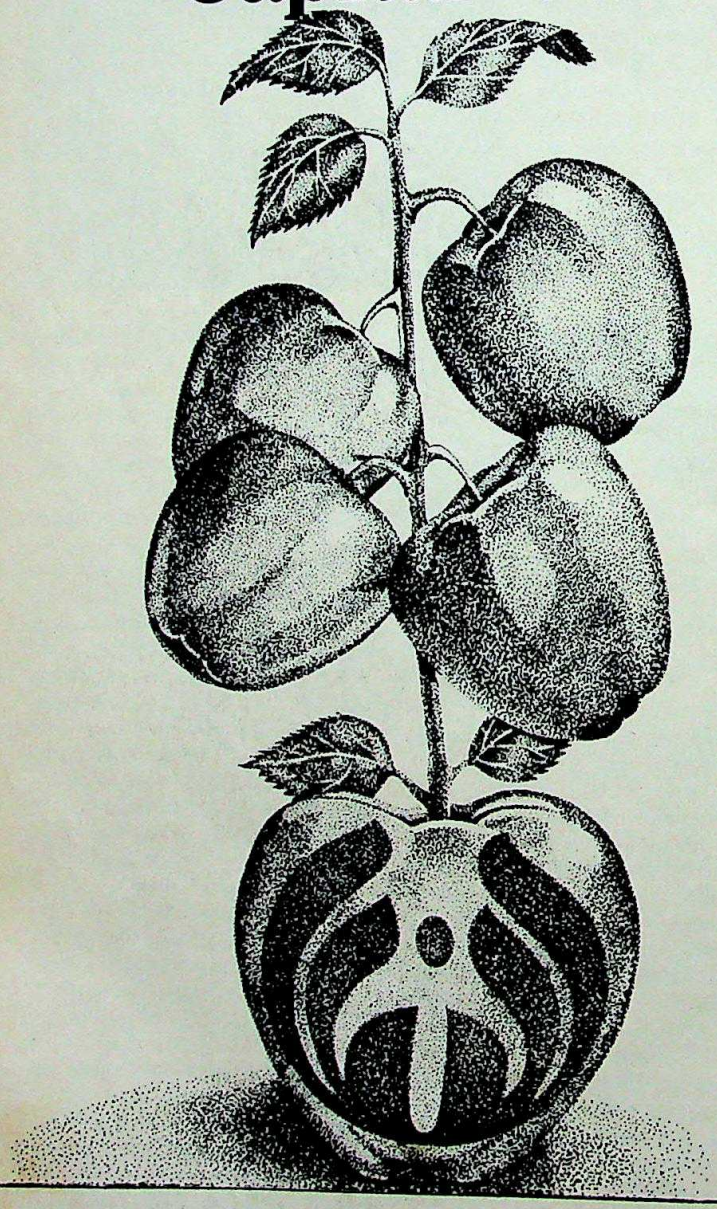
The *Andaman*'s loss may cost the navy an estimated Rs 8 crore, including the initial cost of the ship and weapons on board. But if the navy draws a lesson from this tragedy, then the sacrifice of *INS Andaman* and its crew won't have been entirely in vain.

—W.P.S. SIDHU

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

IDBI Capital Bonds An attractive instrument for exemption from Capital Gains Tax.



- Available at par throughout the year.
- Exemption from Capital Gains tax under Section 54E of the Income Tax Act, 1961.
- Exemption from Wealth tax under Section 5(1) (xvie) of the Wealth Tax Act, 1957
- Income tax benefit under Section 80L.
- Interest at 9% p.a. payable half yearly.
- At the investor's option, interest for the full period of 3 years can be paid in advance on discounted basis.
- No deduction of tax at source.
- Outstation cheques accepted and cost of collection will be borne by IDBI.

For further details contact the nearest IDBI office or write to Manager

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK OF INDIA

IDBI TOWER, Cuffe Parade, Colaba, Bombay 400 005.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

BY GENERAL K. SUNDARJI

Myopic Strategy

IRAQ invades Kuwait and annexes it. This is the first major geopolitical event after the Cold War. What does it portend for the future? A return to 'might is right', the freedom to redraw national boundaries and a retreat to the Middle Ages? Does it mean that the US is going to be freer to impose its hegemony in parts of the world, as some analysts are, in my view wrongly, concluding?

If Kuwait had a nuclear bomb in the basement, and another suspected to be floating around in a small anonymous naval vessel fitted with a short-range rocket projector, would Iraq have invaded Kuwait? I certainly think not, even if Iraq possessed a nuclear weapon. If Iraq had even been a small nuclear weapon power, it would have still attracted universal condemnation and UN sanctions. But, would the US have felt as free to mass such a large military force for coercion or actual use? I bet not.

If on the other hand, the US had held out a threat of the first use of nukes against Iraq, the Soviet Union's reaction would not have been low key, and it would have changed the whole scenario. We must analyse these, as they have a vital bearing on our security. Iraq's was a black and white case, and there was unanimity in the Security Council. The US was, however, ready to go it alone. Tomorrow, the issue may be a grey one, a 'North-South' issue: the target may be India. Do we have to go nuclear to avoid being bullied? I will dwell on this in one of my later columns.

In my last column, I emphasised the need for a national strategy from which national security strategy could flow. National strategy covers the entire gamut of governmental activities. The external components would include diplomatic strategy (including coercive strategies if desired), national security strategy, UN strategy, trade and aid strategies. The internal would include strategies concerning socio-political, sub-national, language, religious, economic and educational issues, as well as internal security policies.

If we had already had such structures working, crises like the Gulf one might have been anticipated: at least their impact on the full spectrum of Indian interests, and possible policy options, would have been known from the outset. Such planning calls for educated crystal-gazing up to 25 years ahead, to get at least tentative answers to questions regarding geopolitical situations, coinages of power and weapon systems. National security strategy covers defence against external aggression and internal subversion, formulated by the National Security Council, with the ministries of defence, foreign affairs and home. Defence strategy would flow from this. All levels require institutional under-planning for ongoing analyses of scenarios.

To get an idea of the range of analyses, some questions might be: Will the world still be bipolar, with the Soviet Union maintaining some of its super interests, notwithstanding its economic and internal political reconstruction? Within such bipolarity, what pattern of second order multipolarity would the world tend to? Should the UN not be strengthened and restructured, with a united Germany, Japan and India becoming permanent members of the Security Council? Would the 'North' voluntarily give up 'eco-technological colonialism' or will the 'South' have to wrest a fair deal?

IF WE HAD A NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY WORKING, CRISES LIKE THE GULF ONE MIGHT HAVE BEEN ANTICIPATED OR AT LEAST THEIR IMPACT ON INDIAN INTERESTS, AND POSSIBLE POLICY OPTIONS, WOULD HAVE BEEN KNOWN FROM THE OUTSET.

Nationalism may not have withered adequately for world government, but would it have weakened sufficiently to permit regional federations or at least confederations? In such a world, to what extent could economic 'weapons' like aid, trade and technology transfers be used for diplomatic blackmail? Can the threat of the use of nuclear or conventional force be used for coercive diplomacy? Will inspired insurgency and terrorism be still used for achieving foreign policy objectives? Can world obloquy and moral force act as a brake to these? Would the world have achieved nuclear disarmament? Would bacteriological and chemical weapons have been banned? Would space have been kept free of weapons?

ARRIVING at the most likely answers to such questions, one would have to analyse the spectrum of threats (and remedies) that are possible, in such a world milieu, between different types of potential adversaries: nuclear power versus non-nuclear, big nuclear versus small nuclear power, between two non-nuclear powers of varying sizes, and so on.

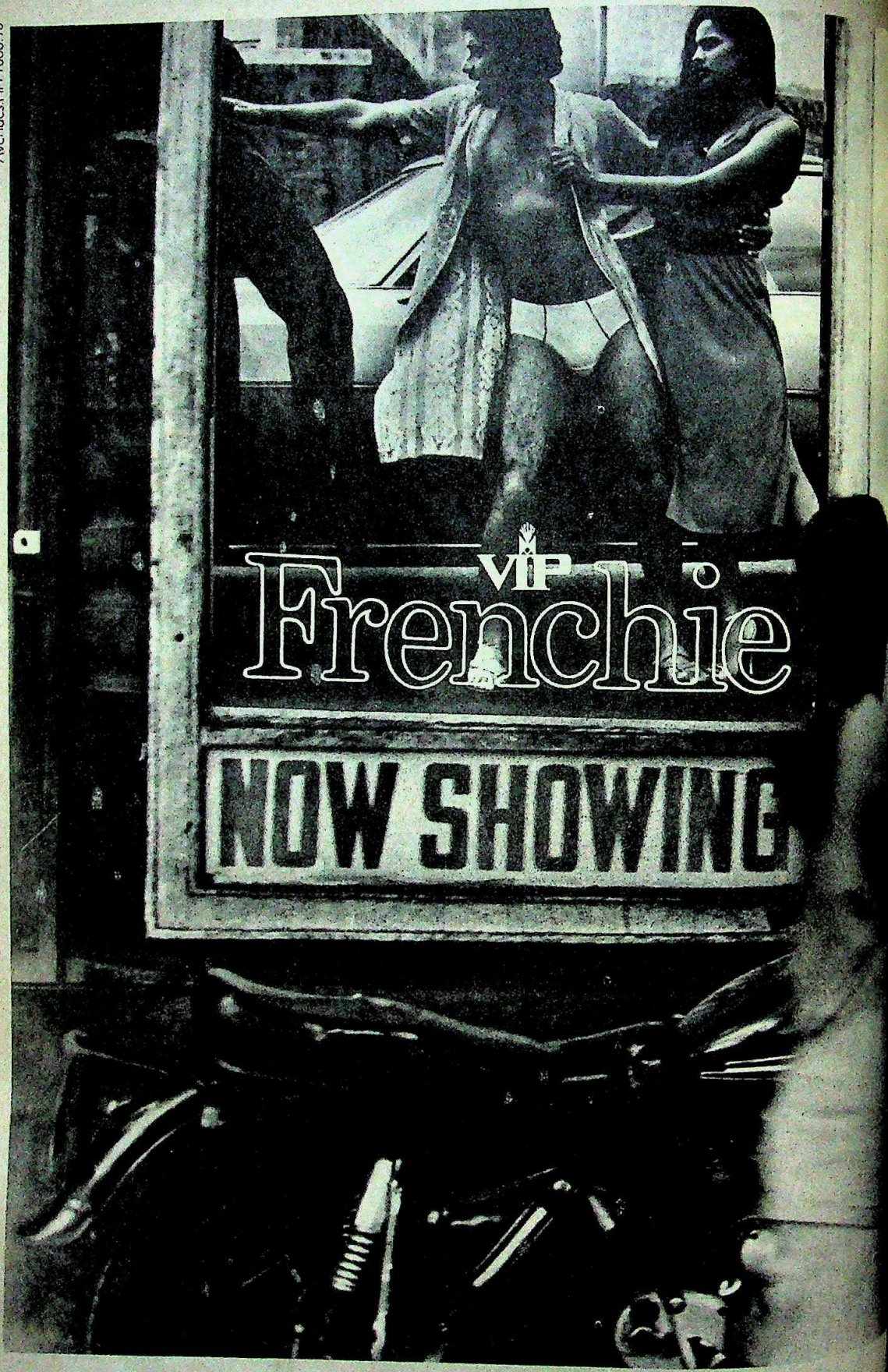
In India, we need to mobilise academia to research such matters, where necessary granting requisite security clearances. I cannot over-emphasise the need for dedicated, institutionalised and ongoing analyses of all aspects of national and all subordinate strategies, with mandated interface for synergism. Permanent, dedicated, multi-disciplinary staff support is inescapable. We have so far taken no steps to institutionalise the underpinning for planning of overall national strategy. As for national security strategy, I doubt whether the proposed National Security Council can be effective. The dedicated staff support is inadequate and the consultative body of 50-odd members, meeting twice a year can hardly be expected to give adequate planning guidance. The 'Core Group' seems to be a key body. It is part-time. Even if every member is a genius, it will fail as the mainspring as they have no time. But of course their advice will be invaluable for decision-making at the apex.

Has the Government lost interest in the National Security Council, or has the bureaucracy designed it to self-destruct?

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Avenues:HH:1086.90



Passers-by ogling at a smashing hit from VIP.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

PRASAR BHARATI BILL

Ambiguous Autonomy

In crucial areas, the Government retains control

WHY is P. Upendra still smiling? Last fortnight, the information and broadcasting minister skilfully navigated the Prasar Bharati Bill through Parliament. Its passage was certainly high drama, much better than anything on television. The elephant seemed to have got through but then its tail was stuck with N.K.P. Salve of the Congress(I) shouting in the Rajya Sabha that his party would oppose the bill, "lock, stock and barrel", just the day before his party had demurely allowed the bill to go through the Lok Sabha. The reason for much ado about nothing: apparently some Congress(I) members felt that they had been too docile, while others were extremely irked by Upendra's description of the bill as a "gift to the nation".

But is it? Has Upendra ostensibly signed away a major part of his empire? Has autonomy for All India Radio (AIR) and Doordarshan (DD) actually arrived?

Not really. For all practical purposes news and current affairs programmes—the crux of the matter and the point of it all—will still be remote controlled by the Government. Government officials from the Indian Information Service (IIS) and the Central Secretariat Service (CSS) already working in AIR or DD will be deputed to the Broadcasting Corporation which is supposed to come into being on April 1, 1991. And they will, according to a senior I&B official, continue to handle the news and current affairs. Big brother (I&B), it appears, will still be watching.

The give-away is in Clause 11 of the bill: "Provided that where any such member intimates, within the time specified...his intention of not becoming an employee of the corporation but to continue on deputation, he may be allowed to continue. The IIS officials will really be part of the corporation but their jobs will be transferable between it and the Government.

Consequently, their real boss will continue to be the I&B Ministry. "If the IIS comes on deputation, where is the autonomy?" asks Ajay Kumar, vice-president of the AIR and DD Programme Staff Association.

There are several other rather ominous signs. Recently, the Government created two posts of director-general (news)—one for AIR and the other for DD—four new posts for assistant director-general. Employees fear the Government is placing senior IIS officials in the news section before the corporation comes into being, as part of their strategy to have a separate news division of their own within the corporation. Also, inconvenient programmes like *Kal Manch* and documentaries by independent producers are being re-examined.

The gift of autonomy, in real terms, that is, is for the serials, telefilms, sponsored programmes—entertainment. "We don't want Prasar Bharati in *Chitrahaar* and films, do we?" says a disappointed DD inmate.

It is understandable that Upendra has something to smile about. But why did the Congress(I) make it so easy for him? The much-heralded unanimity over the bill is puzzling. The bill—there were over 500 proposed amendments after it was introduced into Parliament last December, of which nearly 70 were included—actually made it through quite smoothly, except for the few hiccups at the end. Consensus is convenient. Obviously, most of the political parties are reluctant to let go such a powerful medium. The Congress(I) did not exactly cry itself hoarse over autonomy until the tail-end of the reign when they talked of functional autonomy.

Meanwhile, both within DD and AIR there is considerable confusion because not many understand what the bill means in functional everyday terms. "The rules have not yet been framed. We know about the board and the boss but what about the staff?" asks

Cartoon by AJIT NINAN

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Nayak, president, AIR and DD Programme Staff Association. Like other employees, he is also worried about the clause in the bill which has not clearly spelled out the structure of the organisation or even stipulated that an employee from the programming staff be a permanent member of the board.

Others involved in news and current affairs believe that real autonomy should even allow them to decide what should or should not be covered. "To what extent there will be autonomy will really be seen if we put out something which is not approved of and we are not transferred out," says a producer.

Until now AIR and, to a much greater extent, DD brick out news as they think fit. Those in charge of news actually believe that in a country with such a high rate of illiteracy as India, the dissemination of news should decide what people should hear or see.

How real the promised autonomy will ultimately be also depends on the financial powers given to the director-general of each organisation. At present the director-general, DD, can only sanction Rs 10 lakh fares a year. "If the financial year begins on April 1, he would have to cut off fares by May 1," complains another disgruntled producer.

What is really worrying their staff is the fact that under the old system, they at least knew who wielded the axe. There was only one pressure point: the I&B bosses. Now, they fear there will be multiple. The Broadcasting Corporation of India is accountable to three authorities: the Central Government, the Broadcasting Council and a 22 member-parliamentary committee.

"Until today we had only one minister who controlled things," says Ajay Kumar. "With this parliamentary committee there will be 22 superministers," he adds. Doordarshan would no longer be the "fiefdom of the I&B minister" but of the parliamentary committee. With the new corporation they fear that the interference will be more direct. There will be no buffer like the I&B Ministry to protect them.

Not only do many DD employees anticipate political interference in decisions involving what ought to be aired or not. They are also convinced that the parliamentary committee members and through them, the other members of parliament will try to influence transfers, promotions, and positions, especially for people coming from their respective constituencies. This watch-dog committee is a late inclusion—naturally approved without any murmurs of dissent from other political parties because the chairman of a parliamentary committee is conventionally, often, from the Opposition. The need for such a committee is also questionable: its function is to "oversee that the corporation discharges its functions". However, strangely enough the council has precisely the same function.

What really worries journalists is Clause 23 which allows almost complete supersession of the board. Under this bill the Central Government can "issue to the corporation such direction as it may think necessary in the interests of sovereignty, unity and integrity of India or the security of the state or preservation of public order, requiring it not to make a broadcast on a matter specified in the direction."

And when the board defaults, the Central Government can ask Parliament to supersede the board. All that is needed is a simple majority: in other words, the party in power has the last word, the final cut. The Central Government can also insist that the board "furnish" any extra information it considers necessary.

The door that caged in autonomy may have been opened, but the electronic media has not been given the wings that would allow it to fly. The bird of free speech and information remains fettered at its feet—free to wander where it suits the Government, but capable of being rudely yanked back each time it goes too far.

—MADHU JAIN

THE PROPOSED PRASAR BHARATI

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE:

15 Lok Sabha members
7 Rajya Sabha members

FUNCTION: To oversee the Broadcasting Corporation and report to Parliament

BROADCASTING COUNCIL:

A president and 10 members selected from persons of eminence
4 members of Parliament

FUNCTION: To consider complaints against the board.

PRASAR BHARATI BOARD:

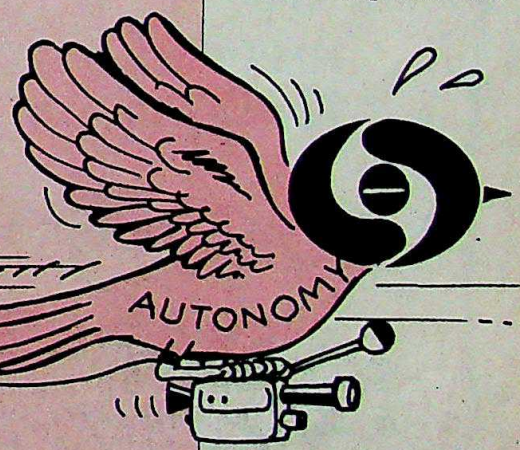
1 part-time Chairman
3 whole-time members: executive, finance and personnel
2 Ex-officio members: Directors-General of AIR and DD
2 Elected members from among the employees
6 part-time members: persons of eminence
1 member from the minsistry of I & B

FUNCTION: To direct and manage the affairs of the corporation.

The chairman and the six part time members of the board will be appointed by the chairman of the Rajya Sabha and the chairman of the Press Council. The President of India will appoint one nominee.

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT:

It can demand any information from the corporation and even recommend its supersession to Parliament, which can do so with a simple majority.



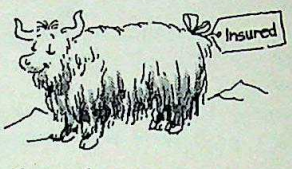
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

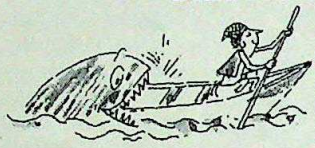
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

We've covered cricket matches
When the pundits forecast rain

We've paid out bills of hospitals
And helped to ease the strain

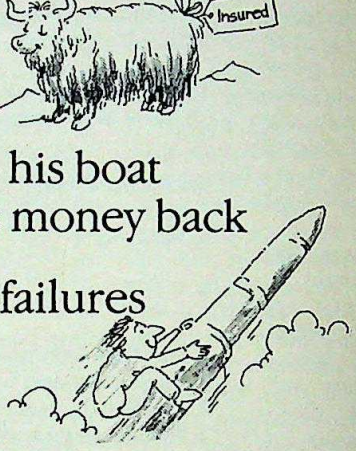
Gompa in the Himalayas
Can now protect his yak





If Kondiah loses his boat
He could get his money back

Offshore wells and crop failures
Rocket launchings too



And now a great new venture
That's tailormade for you

GIC GRIH VITTA LTD

Together we shall make your dream come true

General Insurance Corporation of India
Bombay-400 020.

National Insurance Company Limited
Calcutta-700 071

The New India Assurance Company Limited
Bombay-400 023

The Oriental Insurance Company Limited
New Delhi – 110 002

United India Insurance Company Limited
Madras – 600 014

GGVL Service Centres :

Bangalore GIC Grih Vitta Limited, Service Centre at: United India Insurance Co. Ltd., Regional Office, Shankaranarayana Bldg., 25, M.G.Road, Bangalore - 560 001. Tel.: 573617/573583. **Bombay** GIC Grih Vitta Limited, Service Centre at: The New India Assurance Co. Ltd., New India Bhawan, 2nd flr, 34/38, Bank Street, Fort, Bombay - 400 023. Tel.: 2861621. **Calcutta** GIC Grih Vitta Limited, Service Centre at: United India National Insurance Co. Ltd., 'Everest House', 4th floor, 46C, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Calcutta - 700 071. Tel.: 44-2651/54. Dir. 44-0107. **Hyderabad** GIC Grih Vitta Limited, Service Centre at: United India Insurance Co. Ltd., Regional Office, P.B. No.1020, 3-5-817 & 818 Basheer Bagh, Hyderabad - 500 029. Tel.: 231996, 231894. **Lucknow** GIC Grih Vitta Limited, Service Centre at: The Oriental Insurance Co. Ltd., Lucknow Regional Office, 43, Hazratganj, Lucknow - 226 001. Tel.: 234886. **Madras** GIC Grih Vitta Limited, Service Centre at: United India Insurance Co. Ltd., Head Office, 24, Whites Road, Madras - 600 014. Tel.: 473993/473007. **New Delhi** GIC Grih Vitta Limited, Service Centre at: The Oriental Insurance Co. Ltd., Regional Office, 86-88, Janpath, New Delhi - 110 001. Tel: 3329233. **Panaji** GIC Grih Vitta Limited, Service Centre at: The New India Assurance Co. Ltd., Panaji Divisional Office, Velho Bldg., 3rd floor, Rua Conda - De Torres Nouas, Panaji - 403 001. Tel.: 3770, 4297.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Multimedia Aquarius/GGVL

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ARUN NEHRU

New Suspicions

Newspaper publishes documents that suggest that Nehru knows much more about the controversial Bofors deal than he has cared to reveal.

THE Bofors deal leapt onto centrestage yet again last fortnight, as the controversial howitzers came back once more like Banquo's ghost, this time to haunt the Janata Dal and the Minister for Tourism and Commerce Arun Nehru. Disinterring the latest spectre was the small circulation newspaper, *The Independent* of Bombay, which published two documents that clearly pointed to Nehru's role as a prime negotiator in the gun deal. Not was the other Arun let out—another set of documents in *The Daily*, a Bombay tabloid, also linked the former minister of state for defence, Arun Singh, with pre-contract negotiations. But, the eye of the storm was reserved for Nehru.

Not that the documents establish that Nehru received any kickbacks in the Bofors purchase. What they do is to confirm that Nehru was very powerful in the first flush of Rajiv Gandhi's heydays, and was closely involved in negotiating the contract initially; and that he may know more about the deal than he has been hitherto willing to tell. Reaffirm because, in the past, Nehru has in interviews confessed that he participated in the negotiations. But he has never expanded on his role, and the latest documents demand an amplification of the part the minister played in the tinder-box deal.

The two documents are minutes of two meetings on the Bofors deal that the Swedish diplomat Rolf Gauffin had with Nehru, then minister of state for power. They were recorded by Gauffin. The first document dated June 24, 1985 clearly shows:

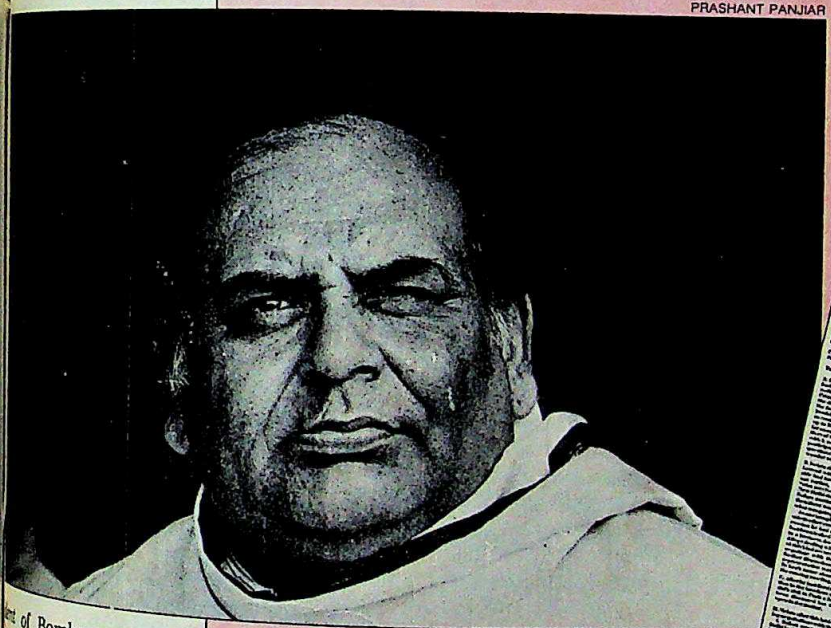
► That Nehru spoke with complete authority, stressing twice that no mention be made of Rajiv and him. Gauffin's telex says: "One absolute condition for further talks with Bofors and Swedish official representatives is that neither Rajiv Gandhi's, nor Arun Nehru's name should be mentioned in connection with coming meetings."

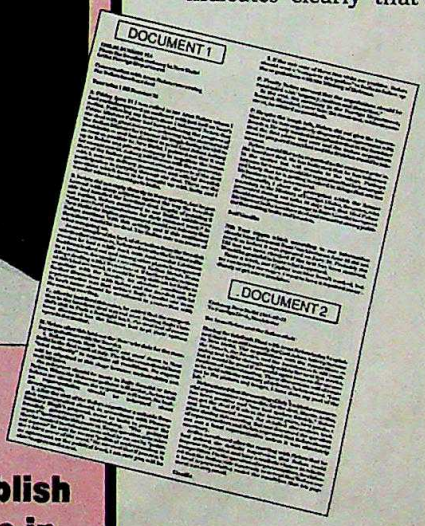
► It also leads to the conclusion that the Swedes would not have been talking to a minister of state for power about a high level defence contract unless he, in their perception, had the complete confidence of the then prime minister.

► Gauffin's telex also indicates clearly that the deal had major ramifications, as procedures were being inverted for it. Gauffin writes that Nehru instructed: "Bofors should send their number one man down to New Delhi in the first week of July. The Bofors man should have 'total authority' to negotiate all conditions. No experts will be required at this stage because technicalities can wait till later."

Apart from this, the documents do not establish much else. But since they are the first piece of documentary

PRASHANT PANJIAR





Nehru; and (inset) the documents published by *The Independent*

The documents do not establish that Nehru received kickbacks in the Bofors deal but reaffirm that he was a prime negotiator in it.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Three decades of international manufacturing success...

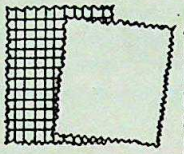
The Lohias, led by the founder Shri N.R. Lohia, set up their first world standard manufacturing unit in Nepal. This success spurred on a wide spectrum of pioneering industrial ventures:

- ★ Updated yarn manufacturing complex in Indonesia.
- ★ The most modern steel plant in Indonesia.
- ★ Nepal's first and largest ultra-modern textile unit.
- ★ Asia's first ever agrowaste based, energy self-sufficient plant in Thailand.
- ★ The latest state-of-the-art synthetic fibres project; again in Indonesia.

In Yarns

PT Indo-Rama Synthetics, Indonesia, with over 65000 spindles ranks among the country's largest producers and exporters of yarn. Turnover exceeds US $55 million with the major output being exported to Europe, Japan, etc.

In Fabrics

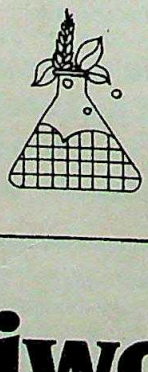


Ashok Textile Industries (Pvt) Ltd., Nepal is the largest Synthetic Fabrics manufacturing unit in Nepal with a turnover exceeding US $8 million. Equipped with the finest weaving, knitting and processing facilities, the Plant has an annual production of over 5 million metres. It enjoys a 35–40% market share.

In Steel

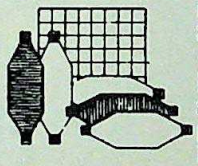
PT Ispat Indo, is Indonesia's largest steel plant in the private sector with a turnover exceeding US $100 million. Manufacturing a wide range of Steels, Flats, Bars and Billets with exports to sophisticated markets like the U.S.A. and Japan.

In Agrochemicals



Indo-Rama Chemicals (TH) Limited, Thailand, is the only venture of its kind in Asia. It manufactures Furfural, Furfural Alcohol and Acetic Acid from agrowaste. Another unit is being commissioned for manufacturing Sodium Hydrosulphate. This Company's turnover will be over US $14 million.

In Synthetic Fibres



PT Indo-Rama Synthetics (Polymer Division) will soon be producing Polyester Staple Fibre, PTY, POY and Polyester Chips for local markets and for export. The Division's turnover is expected to exceed US $81 million.

With an enviable track record internationally, the Lohias are on the threshold of creating new milestones on a global perspective in India.

Nepal, Thailand, Indonesia... the NRI Lohias now come to India

The Uniworth Group

Rawdon Chambers, 11-A Sarojini Naidu Sarani, Calcutta 700 017

International. Innovative. Integrated.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

evidence establishing Nehru's role in the deal—and no one questions their authenticity—they make for fairly damning material. Predictably, the fall-out has been confusion and a sort of sullen anger in the Janata Dal. And in an unexpected and startling development a ferocious feud has been sparked off in the media, which has from the very beginning been closely involved with investigating the Bofors deal.

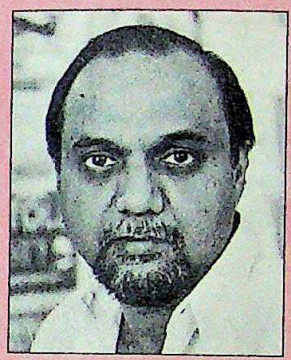
Prominent media persons who have been writing on the controversy have suddenly been divided into lobbies for and against Nehru. Chitra Subramaniam, who has long been tracking the scandal in Switzerland, is now being perceived as anti-Nehru, along with Pritish Nandy, the high-profile editor of *The Independent*. Arrayed on the other side are luminaries like Arun Shourie and N. Ram, who are seen to be defending Nehru. Chitra has accused Shourie of suppressing the documents which she had sent to him two months ago. *The Indian Express* in turn is questioning her credibility and charging her with suddenly going off on a tangent—raising a cry at this juncture though the documents have been with her for several months now—under the influence of Amitabh Bachchan. Sources close to Shourie say the *Express* editor did not refuse to carry the documents, but only wished to clarify some doubts before doing so. Detractors of Nehru, however, allege that Shourie suppressed the documents because he did not want to give a further blow to the crisis-ridden National Front Government, and endanger its very existence.

Interestingly, no one is questioning the authenticity of the documents. says N. Ram: "I have absolutely no doubt that the documents are genuine." *Express* sources close to Shourie similarly admit they are "absolutely genuine". In fact, on March 26, 1988, while reporting from Stockholm for the *Express*, Shourie had quoted from 'secret diplomatic despatches' sent by the Swedish Embassy in New Delhi to their Foreign Affairs Ministry outlining Arun Nehru's role as a prime negotiator in the Bofors deal. These dispatches are the very same which have appeared in the press in full now.

While the accusations fly thick and fast, the ruling party which stormed to power largely on the Bofors platform, has been experiencing pangs of embarrassment. Yet, there has been no serious political fall-out so far. Even the estranged Devi Lal, an arch foe of Nehru, has chosen to ignore the revelations. And Prime Minister V.P. Singh has characteristically pre-empted criticism by declaring that the documents will be looked into by the CBI. The agency is expected to question both Nehru and Rajiv Gandhi's roles on the basis of these documents.

As for the Congress(I), its response has been somewhat cryptic. Initially it attempted to embarrass the Government, with P. Chidambaram being the first to raise the issue against Nehru. But soon it changed its strategy from attacking Nehru to targeting V.P.

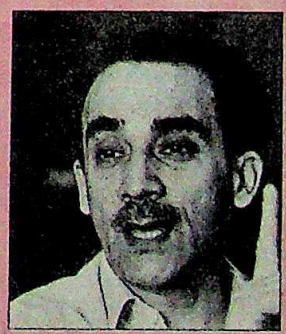
THE MEDIA DEBATE



(From left) Pritish Nandy, Ram Jethmalani and Chitra Subramaniam: sparking off a ferocious battle in the press

Pritish Nandy, editor of *The Independent*, Ram Jethmalani and Chitra Subramaniam contend the documents were suppressed wilfully.

Arun Shourie—accused of suppressing the documents—and N. Ram, in turn, assert that they held up the documents for valid journalistic reasons.



N. Ram and (right) Arun Shourie: questioning the timing of the latest disclosures

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

This announcement appears as a matter of record only. July 1990

THE INDIA MAGNUM FUND N.V.

(Registered in the Netherlands Antilles)

U.S. $ 50,000,000

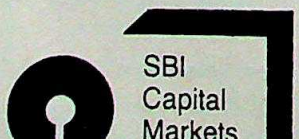
Public offering of 2,000,000 class 'B' shares of par value of US $ 0.01 each

Sponsored by

State Bank of India And *MORGAN STANLEY*

Advisors to the Fund

Indian Advisor



US Advisor

MORGAN STANLEY ASSET MANAGEMENT INC.

Custodian to the Fund: State Bank of India

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

LINTAS SBI MF 40 20

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Singh, till it seemed as if the party was almost protecting Nehru while gunning for the prime minister. V.P. Singh has been mentioned in passing in Rolf Gauffin's telex as having made a statement in Stockholm about the deal. Seeing on this, Rajiv has tried to cast aspersions on Singh by saying in an interview: "He (Singh) has been involved in the deal right from the time he went to Stockholm. He got a full brief. He got a little file we made out from the Defence Ministry."

While this has led nowhere, there have been those who've questioned the timing of the present disclosures. Senior officials in the Government claim the documents against Nehru are aimed at sabotaging the Bofors case in the Swiss courts even as it is approaching its final stages. Their theory is that once the case begins to acquire the hue of a political vendetta, it will no longer hold water as a criminal case, and may not fall under the purview of the Swiss courts.

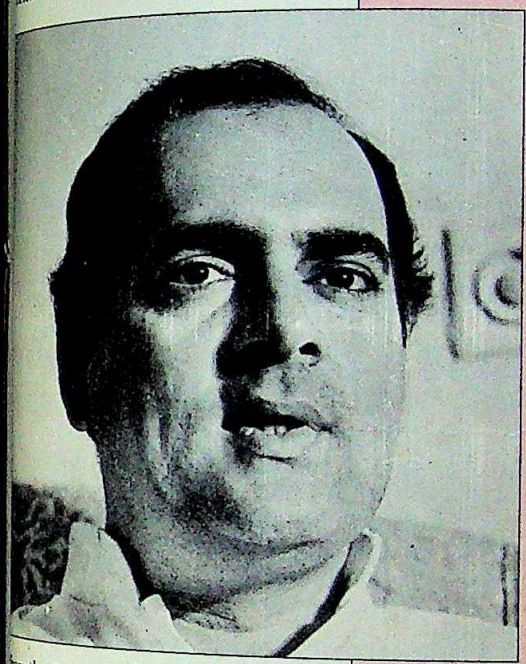
Others feel there is more to it than meets the eye. Ram Jethmalani in particular has come out with all guns blazing, and has demanded in no uncertain terms that Nehru resign. Nehru's detractors also point to Rajiv's reluctance to indict his cousin, and see in it some sort of unholy conspiracy of silence. Nehru himself has been trying to maintain a low profile on the controversy, and has said he does not want to comment on a foreign diplomat's internal notings".

The background of the matter is that in the summer of 1985 (the documents relate to June-July 1985) Nehru was at his powerful peak. Despite his relatively unimportant portfolio, he was in total command, with a finger in almost every pie. A great deal of his power stemmed from his proximity to Rajiv. Then in the autumn of 1986, Rajiv's close friend Arun Singh was moved in as minister of state for defence. Arun Nehru was appointed minister of state for internal security. His role in the Bofors negotiations must have ceased by then, for within months of taking over internal security, reports about a rift between Nehru and Rajiv began making the rounds. Soon Nehru was on a collision course with the prime minister—over the Muslim Women's Bill, the HBJ pipeline contract in which he played a major role in upsetting Snamprogetti's O. Quattrochhi (who is close to Sonia Gandhi)—and was divested of major portfolios with Chidambaram usurping his position. Later, Nehru finds a mention in the handwritten diary of the then Bofors president Martin Ardbo, details of which appeared in the press in early 1988. The diary showed that Ardbo had been visiting London to seek the advice of a person he refers to as 'H'. In September 1987, he records that "H does not care if Nero (Arun Nehru) is hurt. He does not mind even if Q is hurt. But G must be saved at all cost." Yet, despite all this, even after splitting up with Rajiv, Nehru has refused to elaborate on the backstage manoeuvrings in the Bofors deal.

In the light of this background the recently published documents tend to raise a host of questions. If Nehru was aware of the presence of middlemen, why did he choose to keep quiet, and who were the middlemen he spoke to Gauffin about? Why did Nehru insist strictly that Rajiv and his name be kept completely under wraps? Had he been authorised by Rajiv to talk to the Swedes? Nehru told Gauffin "the political aspect" was most important in the deal: what was this political aspect that outweighed financial and defence considerations? And what did Nehru say to Ardbo that gave him the impression that Bofors stood a real chance of getting the contract?

These are pressing questions that demand clear answers. It is a reasonable assumption that Nehru holds the key to many of them. The evidence so far does not link him with the pay-offs. And if Nehru does speak out the lid will be taken off the Bofors ease earlier than it would otherwise have been.

—PRABHU CHAWLA with TARUN J. TEJPAL



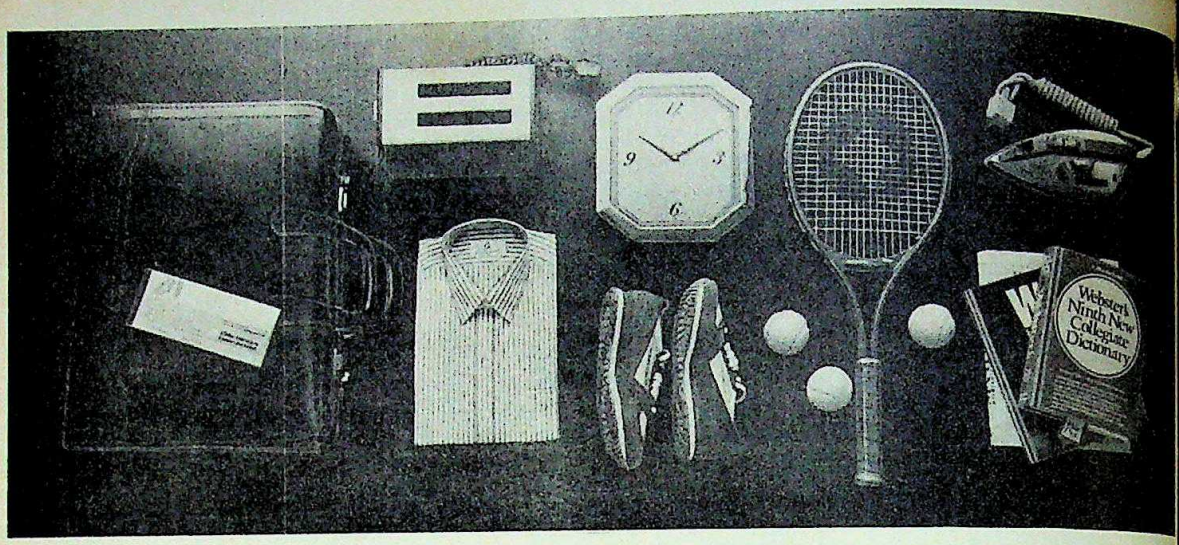
V.P. Singh; and (left) Rajiv Gandhi: unending saga

Photographs by BHAWAN SINGH

From initially attacking Nehru, the Congress(I) has now changed its strategy to targeting V.P. Singh.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



BUY ALL THIS IN ABOUT 2.5 SECONDS, PAY FOR IT IN AROUND ONE WHOLE YEAR.

THAT'S 3,15,36,000 SECONDS.

THE ONLY CARD IN THE COUNTRY THAT ALLOWS YOU TO BUY NOW AND PAY IN EASY INSTALMENTS OVER ONE YEAR

THE ANZ GRINDLAYS VISA CLASSIC CARD

WHERE YOUR CREDIT DOESN'T END WITH THE MONTH

ANZ Grindlays Bank

YOU CAN OWN AN ANZ GRINDLAYS VISA CLASSIC CARD EVEN IF YOU DON'T HAVE AN ACCOUNT WITH US. JUST CALL OR VISIT YOUR NEAREST BRANCH. AND IF THERE ISN'T ONE IN YOUR CITY, WRITE TO US HERE: CARD SERVICES DIVISION: 90, M.G. ROAD, BOMBAY 400 001. PHONE: 270007/270162.

ANZ GRINDLAYS MAIN BRANCHES: ▫ BOMBAY – 90, M.G. Road, Ph: 270162. ▫ CALCUTTA – 19, N.S. Road, Ph: 208346. ▫ DELHI – 10, Sansad Marg, Ph: 312004. ▫ MADRAS – 19, Rajaji Salai, Ph: 589131. ▫ AHMEDABAD – Gandhi Bazar, Ph: 43217. ▫ BANGALORE – Mission Road, Ph: 220300. ▫ COCHIN – Bristow Road, Ph: 69582. ▫ DARJEELING – 49, Laden La Road, Ph: 2777. ▫ GUWAHATI – Fancy Bazar, Ph: 27018. ▫ HYDERABAD – Abids, Ph: [illegible] ▫ KANPUR – 16, M.G. Road, Ph: 211462. ▫ SHIMLA – The Mall, Ph: 3025. ▫ SRINAGAR – Sherwani Road, Ph: 76935. ▫ TUTICORIN – 44, Beach Road, Ph: 20817.

SPEER 28 [illegible]

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

BHUTAN

Cracks in Paradise

Ethnic strife threatens kingdom's peace

BHUTAN'S most widely recognised symbol, the dragon, is roaring to acquire a malevolent look as a brewing ethnic crisis shows every signs of snowballing into a revolt. Seldom in its slumberous history has the tiny Himalayan kingdom (population: 1.3 million) faced a problem of such serious dimensions. And it is a crisis which is not only likely to split the country down the middle, but also bring the monarchy's continuing existence into question.

The root cause of the current unrest is the ongoing attempt to 'Bhutanise' the country. This has alienated the Nepalis who constitute 40 per cent of the population. About 10,000 of them, according to official Indian estimates, have crossed over to India seeking refugee status, and have formed a political party, the Bhutan People's Party (BPP), which seems to be functioning from Indian soil. The Nepalis have also enlarged their demands, from the restoration of human rights to far-reaching political reforms. Clearly, egged on by the developments in Nepal, they now want the restoration of a modicum of democracy in Bhutan.

Not that all this has sparked off tensions between India and Bhutan. The two countries have reacted predictably. The Indian Government, anxious to maintain good relations with the one 'friendly' South Asian country, last fortnight foiled a planned long march to Bhutan by deploying paramilitary forces. On the other side, the Royal Bhutanese Army took up positions, and a virtual curfew was imposed in the border town of Phuntsholing. The Bhutanese Government declared that those who had left the country were *Ngolops* (anti-nationals) and they and their family would have to forfeit their citizenship.

> The strife is likely to split the country down the middle and bring the monarchy's existence into question.

That the issue is grave is clear from the fact that while the Nepalis resent the 'Bhutanising' of the country, the Bhutanese are alarmed at the proliferation of Nepalis. The Government even suspects the Nepalis' loyalty. A senior official feels most northerners look upon the Nepalis in the south as foreigners. Says Dago Tshering, the deputy home minister—and arguably the second most powerful man in Bhutan—while justifying the decision to stop teaching Nepalese in schools: "In our experience the Nepalis identify more with Nepal than with us."

Consequently the Government has been trying to stem the growth of the Nepalis, even as it emphasises Bhutanese traditions. Alongside initiating a vigorous family-planning campaign in the south, a uniform code of conduct, namely 'Driglam Namzha', consisting of more than 30 injunctions, has been sought to be implemented. Since April last year the Bhutanese Government has borne upon the people to wear the national dress—

Refugees in Garganda tea estate in West Bengal

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

the 'Kho' for men and the 'Kira' for women. The women were also asked to cut their hair short and Dzonkha, the language spoken by the Drupkas in the north, was made compulsory. In an extraordinary move, the Government not only empowered the police to impose fines on people violating the code but, as an incentive, also allowed the police to pocket half the amount. Predictably the police went berserk and Thimphu now reluctantly acknowledges that the implementation of 'Driglam Namzha' could have been more tactful.

The Bhutanese plea that its sole intention was to preserve its distinct culture rings quite hollow. For, in both Thimphu and the towns in the south, Hindi films are regularly shown, and cassettes of even blue films are freely available. The elite dress in western clothes, and play games like golf and squash. And because the Dzonkha script is still being evolved, much of even the Government's correspondence is done in English. Apologises Dago Tshering: "It is my fault actually, I find it easier to write in English."

The real crux of the problem is the sharing of the national cake. Says an official: "In Bhutan both schooling and health facilities are free. Who wouldn't like to come and settle here?" Government spokesmen claim that in one district alone, Samchi, as many as 20,000 unauthorised immigrants have been unearthed, and most of them are Nepalis. That the Government has been seeking to weed out unwanted people is made clear by the census operation it started in 1988.

The Nepalis on the other hand are aggrieved that the cut-off point has been fixed as 1958. Says Dhan Bahadur Pradhan, now in a refugee camp in the Hantupara tea estate in India: "Even my grandparents were born in Bhutan but in 1958 there was no system of any citizenship certificate. Now I am being asked to show evidence of citizenship."

Meanwhile, the tea gardens in Jalpaiguri district of West Bengal are swarming with refugees. In the three tea estates of Garganda, Hantupara and Dumchipara alone, there are around 2,000. Hari Prasad Adhikari, a former member of the Bhutanese National Assembly, claimed at Garganda that there were 26 such camps on the Indo-Bhutan border. Adhikari himself claims to have left behind three children and his wife at Geyelepug. Among the women who have sneaked across are students who escaped from the hostels without informing their parents. Says Archana Chetri, a student of class nine at the Samchi high school: "Our hair was forcibly cut by the teachers, we were abused as foreigners and we heard reports of Nepali girls being raped—we decided to escape."

VIRTUALLY everyone in the camps has a horror story to tell. D.B. Rai, a contractor, was arrested last year and released in February under a general amnesty declared by the king. But Rai claims to have been tortured and released only after he signed a bond saying that he would refrain from political activities. Says he: "My licence was seized and when I got back home I was ostracised." Finally, Rai and his wife crossed over to India, leaving three of their children with his sister.

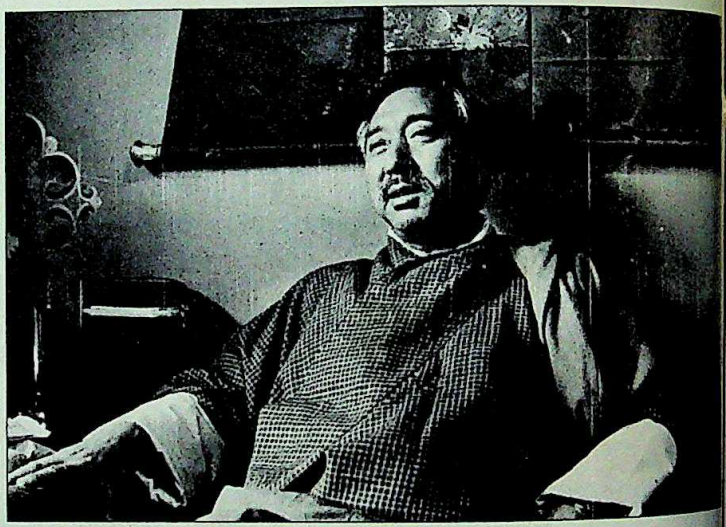
Thimphu accuses the Nepalis of indulging in subversion from across the border—of kidnapping and killing people. The Government is also dismissive of the rebel leadership, which is mostly in young hands. Most of the refugees too appear to be in their 20s or early 30s. Also many of them admit to be carrying on business in Bhutan, lending credence to the Bhutanese Government's allegations that it is businessmen, affected by the census, who are behind the unrest.

But the fact that as many as 10,000 of them have left the country looks ominous, and neither Thimphu nor New Delhi can wish away the situation. The rebels are likely to receive help from the Nepalis living in India—support has already been pledged by the Gorkha Liberation Organisation led by Chhatre Subba.

At Thimphu, the greatest apprehension is over the possibility of a pan-Nepali movement promoted by Kathmandu. As for New Delhi, it fears that large numbers of idle Nepalis along the Indo-Bhutan border will create trouble. As one official says: "The Bodos, agitating for separation from Assam, may join hands with the Bhutanese-Nepalis." But at the moment, as they run short of funds, the hundreds of them fall sick, the rebels are seeking the offices of the Indian Government to get themselves a resettlement in their home country. Says Khadanand Adhikari, a former member of Bhutan's National Assembly: "A single phone call from Delhi would be sufficient to restore peace."

But peace seems a distant mirage. The resentment and the call for democracy and majority rule is unlikely to ease easily. In the months to come, the dragon kingdom clearly faces a trial by fire. —UTTAM SENGUPTA in Thimphu

Tshering: harsh measures



Nepalis resent the 'Bhutanising' of the country and Bhutanese are alarmed at the proliferation of the Nepalis.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ARUN NEHRU

New Suspicions

Newspaper publishes documents that suggest that Nehru knows much more about the controversial Bofors deal than he has cared to reveal.

THE Bofors deal leapt onto centrestage yet again last fortnight, as the controversial howitzers came back once more like Banquo's ghost, this time to haunt the Janata Dal and the Minister for Tourism and Commerce Arun Nehru. Disinterring the latest spectre was the small circulation newspaper, *The Independent* of Bombay, which published two documents that clearly pointed to Nehru's role as a prime negotiator in the gun deal. It was the other Arun who out—another set of documents in *The Daily*, a Bombay tabloid, also linked the former minister of state for defence, Arun Nehru, with pre-contract negotiations. But, the eye of the storm was reserved for Nehru.

Not that the documents establish that Nehru received any kickbacks in the Bofors purchase. What they do is to confirm that Nehru was very powerful in the first flush of Rajiv Gandhi's heyday, and was closely involved in negotiating the contract initially; and that he may know more about the deal than he has been hitherto willing to tell. Reaffirm because, in the past, Nehru has in interviews confessed that he participated in the negotiations. But he has never expanded on his role, and the latest documents demand an amplification of the part the minister played in the tinder-box deal.

The two documents are minutes of two meetings on the Bofors deal that the Swedish diplomat Rolf Gauffin had with Nehru, then minister of state for power. They were recorded by Gauffin. The first document dated June 24, 1985 clearly shows:

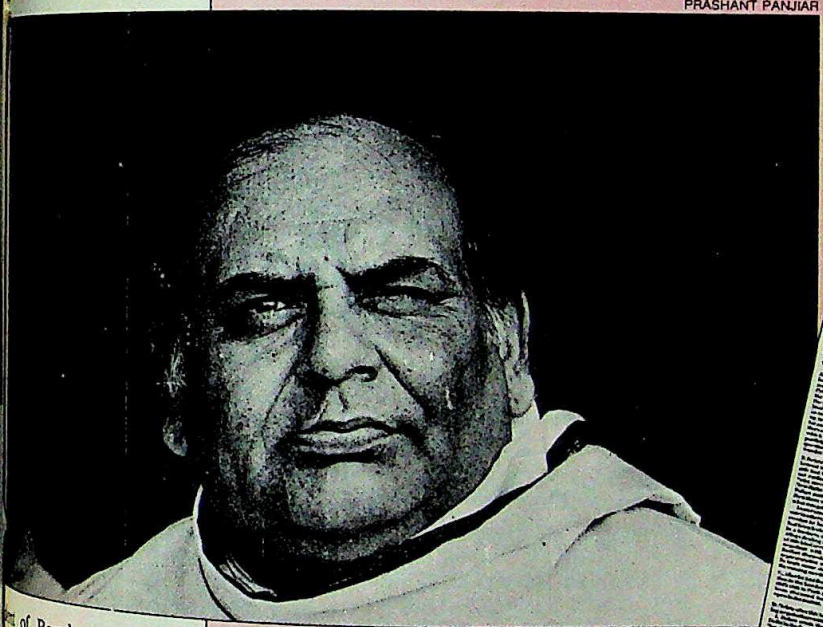
► That Nehru spoke with complete authority, stressing twice that no mention be made of Rajiv and him. Gauffin's telex says: "One absolute condition for further talks with Bofors and Swedish official representatives is that neither Rajiv Gandhi's, nor Arun Nehru's name should be mentioned in connection with coming meetings."

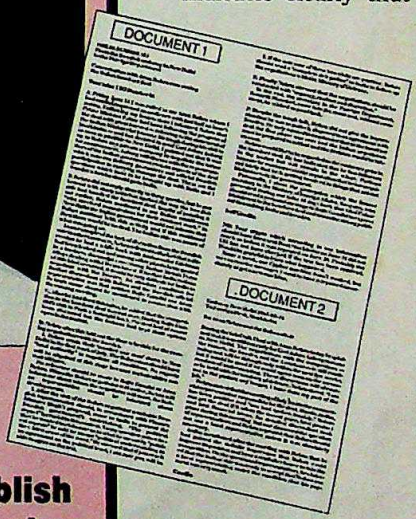
► It also leads to the conclusion that the Swedes would not have been talking to a minister of state for power about a high level defence contract unless he, in their perception, had the complete confidence of the then prime minister.

► Gauffin's telex also indicates clearly that the deal had major ramifications, as procedures were being inverted for it. Gauffin writes that Nehru instructed: "Bofors should send their number one man down to New Delhi in the first week of July. The Bofors man should have 'total authority' to negotiate all conditions. No experts will be required at this stage because technicalities can wait till later."

Apart from this, the documents do not establish much else. But since they are the first piece of documentary

PRASHANT PANJIAR





Nehru; and (inset) the documents published by *The Independent*

The documents do not establish that Nehru received kickbacks in the Bofors deal but reaffirm that he was a prime negotiator in it.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

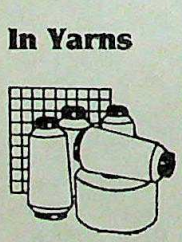
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Three decades of international manufacturing success...

The Lohias, led by the founder Shri N.R. Lohia, set up their first world standard manufacturing unit in Nepal. This success spurred on a wide spectrum of pioneering industrial ventures:

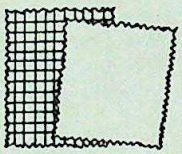
- ★ Updated yarn manufacturing complex in Indonesia.
- ★ The most modern steel plant in Indonesia.
- ★ Nepal's first and largest ultra-modern textile unit.
- ★ Asia's first ever agrowaste based, energy self-sufficient plant in Thailand.
- ★ The latest state-of-the-art synthetic fibres project; again in Indonesia.

In Yarns



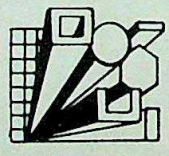
PT Indo-Rama Synthetics, Indonesia, with over 65000 spindles ranks among the country's largest producers and exporters of yarn. Turnover exceeds US $55 million with the major output being exported to Europe, Japan, etc.

In Fabrics



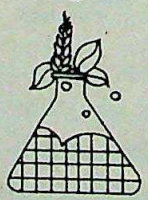
Ashok Textile Industries (Pvt) Ltd., Nepal is the largest Synthetic Fabrics manufacturing unit in Nepal with a turnover exceeding US $8 million. Equipped with the finest weaving, knitting and processing facilities, the Plant has an annual production of over 5 million metres. It enjoys a 35–40% market share.

In Steel



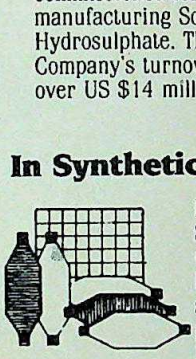
PT Ispat Indo, is Indonesia's largest steel plant in the private sector with a turnover exceeding US $100 million. Manufacturing a wide range of Steels, Flats, Bars and Billets with exports to sophisticated markets like the U.S.A. and Japan.

In Agrochemicals



Indo-Rama Chemicals (TH) Limited, Thailand, is the only venture of its kind in Asia. It manufactures Furfural, Furfural Alcohol and Acetic Acid from agrowaste. Another unit is being commissioned for manufacturing Sodium Hydrosulphate. This Company's turnover will be over US $14 million.

In Synthetic Fibres



PT Indo-Rama Synthetics (Polymer Division) will soon be producing Polyester Staple Fibre, PTY, POY and Polyester Chips for local markets and for export. The Division's turnover is expected to exceed US $81 million.

With an enviable track record internationally, the Lohias are on the threshold of creating new milestones on a global perspective in India.

Nepal, Thailand, Indonesia... the NRI Lohias now come to India

The Uniworth Group

Rawdon Chambers, 11-A Sarojini Naidu Sarani, Calcutta 700 017

International. Innovative. Integrated.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

evidence establishing Nehru's role in the deal—and no one questions their authenticity—they make for fairly damning material. Predictably, the fall-out has been confusion and a sort of sullen anger in the Janata Dal. And in an unexpected and startling development a ferocious feud has been sparked off in the media, which has from the very beginning been closely involved with investigating the Bofors deal.

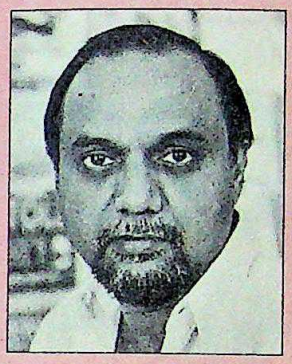
Prominent media persons who have been writing on the controversy have suddenly been divided into lobbies for and against Nehru. Chitra Subramaniam, who has long been tracking the scandal in Switzerland, is now being perceived as anti-Nehru, along with Pritish Nandy, the high-profile editor of *The Independent*. Arrayed on the other side are luminaries like Arun Shourie and N. Ram, who are seen to be defending Nehru. Chitra has accused Shourie of suppressing the documents which she had sent to him two months ago. *The Indian Express* in turn is questioning her credibility and charging her with suddenly going off on a tangent—raising a cry at this juncture though the documents have been with her for several months now—under the influence of Amitabh Bachchan. Sources close to Shourie say the *Express* editor did not refuse to carry the documents, but only wished to clarify some doubts before doing so. Detractors of Nehru, however, allege that Shourie suppressed the documents because he did not want to give a further blow to the crisis-ridden National Front Government, and endanger its very existence.

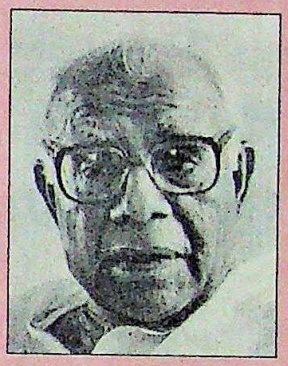
Interestingly, no one is questioning the authenticity of the documents. Says N. Ram: "I have absolutely no doubt that the documents are genuine." *Express* sources close to Shourie similarly admit they are "absolutely genuine". In fact, on March 26, 1988, while reporting from Stockholm for the *Express*, Shourie had quoted from 'secret diplomatic despatches' sent by the Swedish Embassy in New Delhi to their Foreign Affairs Ministry outlining Arun Nehru's role as a prime negotiator in the Bofors deal. These dispatches are the very same which have appeared in the press in full now.

While the accusations fly thick and fast, the ruling party which stormed to power largely on the Bofors platform, has been experiencing pangs of embarrassment. Yet, there has been no serious political fall-out so far. Even the estranged Devi Lal, an arch foe of Nehru, has chosen to ignore the revelations. And Prime Minister V.P. Singh has characteristically pre-empted criticism by declaring that the documents will be looked into by the CBI. The agency is expected to question both Nehru and Rajiv Gandhi's roles on the basis of these documents.

As for the Congress(I), its response has been somewhat cryptic. Initially it attempted to embarrass the Government, with P. Chidambaram being the first to raise the issue against Nehru. But soon it changed its strategy from attacking Nehru to targeting V.P.

THE MEDIA DEBATE





(From left) Pritish Nandy, Ram Jethmalani and Chitra Subramaniam: sparking off a ferocious battle in the press

Pritish Nandy, editor of *The Independent*, Ram Jethmalani and Chitra Subramaniam contend the documents were suppressed wilfully.

Arun Shourie—accused of suppressing the documents—and N. Ram, in turn, assert that they held up the documents for valid journalistic reasons.

N. Ram and (right) Arun Shourie: questioning the timing of the latest disclosures

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

This announcement appears as a matter of record only. July 1990

THE INDIA MAGNUM FUND N.V.

(Registered in the Netherlands Antilles)

U.S. $ 50,000,000

Public offering of 2,000,000 class 'B' shares of par value of US $ 0.01 each

Sponsored by

State Bank of India And *MORGAN STANLEY*

Advisors to the Fund

Indian Advisor

SBI Capital Markets Limited

US Advisor

MORGAN STANLEY ASSET MANAGEMENT INC.

Custodian to the Fund: State Bank of India

LINTAS SBI MF 40 2

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Singh, till it seemed as if the party was almost protecting Nehru while gunning for the prime minister. V.P. Singh has been mentioned in passing in Rolf Gauffin's telex as having made a statement in Stockholm about the deal. Seizing on this, Rajiv has tried to cast aspersions on Singh by saying in an interview: "He (Singh) has been involved in the deal right from the time he went to Stockholm. He got a full brief. He got a little file we made out from the Defence Ministry."

While this has led nowhere, there have been those who've questioned the timing of the present disclosures. Senior officials in the Government claim the documents against Nehru are aimed at sabotaging the Bofors case in the Swiss courts even as it is approaching its final stages. Their theory is that once the case begins to acquire the hue of a political vendetta, it will no longer hold water as a criminal case, and may not fall under the purview of the Swiss courts.

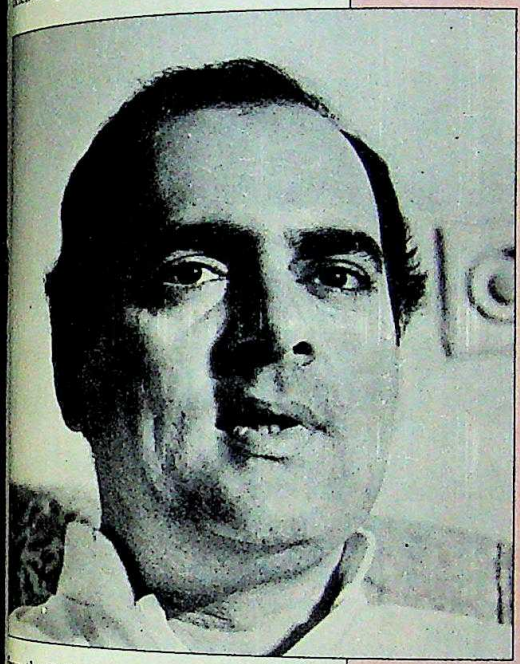
Others feel there is more to it than meets the eye. Ram Jethmalani in particular has come out with all guns blazing, and has demanded in no uncertain terms that Nehru resign. Nehru's detractors also point to Rajiv's reluctance to indict his cousin, and see in it some sort of unholy conspiracy of silence. Nehru himself has been trying to maintain a low profile on the controversy, and has said he does not want to "comment on a foreign diplomat's internal notings".

The background of the matter is that in the summer of 1985 (the documents relate to June-July 1985) Nehru was at his powerful peak. Despite his relatively unimportant portfolio, he was in total command, with a finger in almost every pie. A great deal of his power stemmed from his proximity to Rajiv. Then in the autumn of 1986, Rajiv's close friend Arun Singh was moved in as minister of state for defence. Arun Nehru was appointed minister of state for internal security. His role in the Bofors negotiations must have ceased by then, for within months of taking over internal security, reports about a rift between Nehru and Rajiv began making the rounds. Soon Nehru was on a collision course with the prime minister—over the Muslim Women's Bill, the HBJ pipeline contract in which he played a major role in upsetting Snamprogetti's O. Quattrochhi (who is close to Sonia Gandhi)—and was divested of major portfolios with Chidambaram usurping his position. Later, Nehru finds a mention in the handwritten diary of the then Bofors president Martin Ardbo, details of which appeared in the press in early 1988. The diary showed that Ardbo had been visiting London to seek the advice of a person he refers to as 'H'. In September 1987, he records that "H does not care if Nero (Arun Nehru) is hurt. He does not mind even if Q is hurt. But G must be saved at all cost." Yet, despite all this, even after splitting up with Rajiv, Nehru has refused to elaborate on the backstage manoeuvrings in the Bofors deal.

In the light of this background the recently published documents tend to raise a host of questions. If Nehru was aware of the presence of middlemen, why did he choose to keep quiet, and who were the middlemen he spoke to Gauffin about? Why did Nehru insist strictly that Rajiv and his name be kept completely under wraps? Had he been authorised by Rajiv to talk to the Swedes? Nehru told Gauffin "the political aspect" was most important in the deal: what was this political aspect that outweighed financial and defence considerations? And what did Nehru say to Ardbo that gave him the impression that Bofors stood a real chance of getting the contract?

These are pressing questions that demand clear answers. It is a reasonable assumption that Nehru holds the key to many of them. The evidence so far does not link him with the pay-offs. And if Nehru does speak out the lid will be taken off the Bofors ease earlier than it would otherwise have been.

—PRABHU CHAWLA with TARUN J. TEJPAL



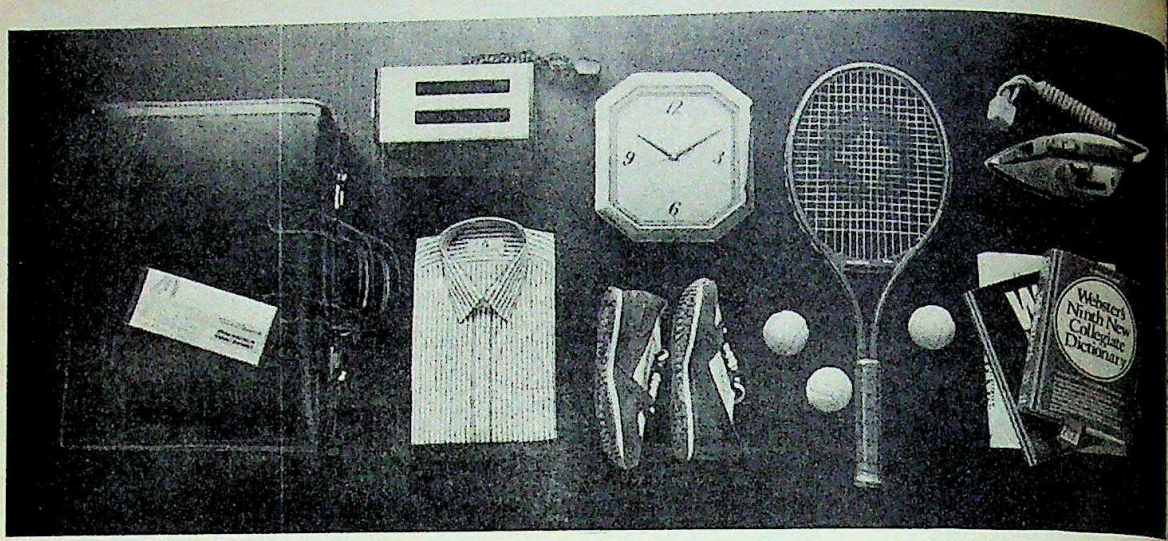
V.P. Singh; and (left) Rajiv Gandhi: unending saga

Photographs by BHAWAN SINGH

From initially attacking Nehru, the Congress(I) has now changed its strategy to targeting V.P. Singh.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



BUY ALL THIS IN ABOUT 2.5 SECONDS, PAY FOR IT IN AROUND ONE WHOLE YEAR.

THAT'S 3,15,36,000 SECONDS.

THE ONLY CARD IN THE COUNTRY THAT ALLOWS YOU TO BUY NOW AND PAY IN EASY INSTALMENTS OVER ONE YEAR

THE ANZ GRINDLAYS VISA CLASSIC CARD

WHERE YOUR CREDIT DOESN'T END WITH THE MONTH

ANZ Grindlays Bank

YOU CAN OWN AN ANZ GRINDLAYS VISA CLASSIC CARD EVEN IF YOU DON'T HAVE AN ACCOUNT WITH US. JUST CALL OR VISIT YOUR NEAREST BRANCH. AND IF THERE ISN'T ONE IN YOUR CITY, WRITE TO US HERE: CARD SERVICES DIVISION: 90, M.G. ROAD, BOMBAY 400 001. PHONE: 270007/270162.

ANZ GRINDLAYS MAIN BRANCHES: ☐ BOMBAY – 90, M.G. Road, Ph: 270162. ☐ CALCUTTA – 19, N.S. Road, Ph: 208346. ☐ DELHI – 10, Sansad Marg, Ph: 312004. ☐ MADRAS – 19, Rajaji Salai, Ph: 589131. ☐ AHMEDABAD – Gandhi Bazar, Ph: 43217. ☐ BANGALORE – Mission Road, Ph: 220300. ☐ COCHIN – Bristow Road, Ph: 69582. ☐ DARJEELING – 49, Laden La Road, Ph: 2777. ☐ GUWAHATI – Fancy Bazar, Ph: 27018. ☐ HYDERABAD – Abids, Ph: [illegible] ☐ KANPUR – 16, M.G. Road, Ph: 211462. ☐ SHIMLA – The Mall, Ph: 3025. ☐ SRINAGAR – Sherwani Road, Ph: 76935. ☐ TUTICORIN – 44, Beach Road, Ph: 20817.

SPEER 29

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

BHUTAN

Cracks in Paradise

Ethnic strife threatens kingdom's peace

BHUTAN'S most widely recognised symbol, the dragon, is asserting to acquire a malevolent look as a brewing ethnic crisis shows every signs of snowballing into a revolt. Seldom in its slumberous history has the tiny Himalayan kingdom (population: 1.3 million) faced a problem of such serious dimensions. And it is a crisis which is not only likely to split the country down the middle, but also bring the monarchy's continuing existence into question.

The root cause of the current unrest is the ongoing attempt to 'Bhutanise' the country. This has alienated the Nepalis who constitute 40 per cent of the population. About 10,000 of them, according to official Indian estimates, have crossed over to India seeking refugee status, and have formed a political party, the Bhutan People's Party (BPP), which seems to be functioning from Indian soil. The Nepalis have also enlarged their demands, from the restoration of human rights to far-reaching political reforms. Clearly, egged on by the developments in Nepal, they now want the restoration of a modicum of democracy in Bhutan.

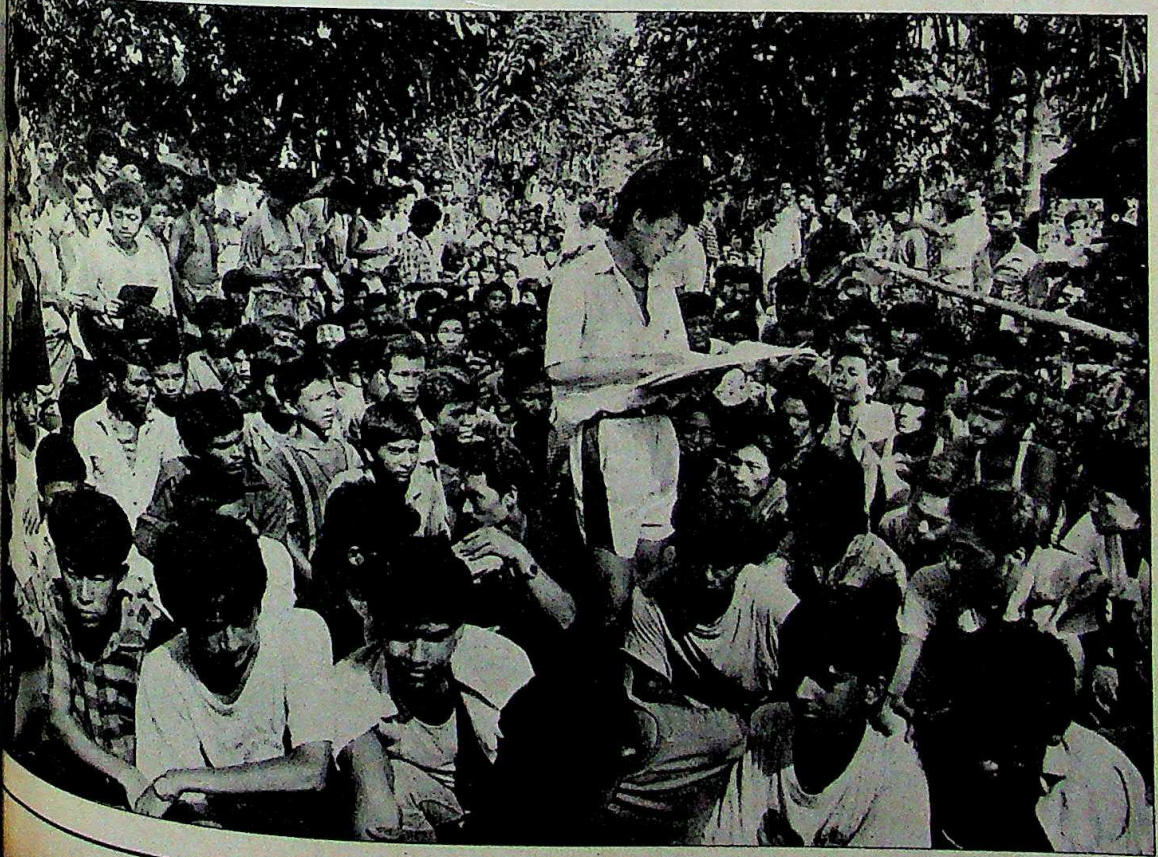
Not that all this has sparked off tensions between India and Bhutan. The two countries have reacted predictably. The Indian Government, anxious to maintain good relations with the one 'friendly' South Asian country, last fortnight foiled a planned long march to Bhutan by deploying paramilitary forces. On the other side, the Royal Bhutanese Army took up positions, and a virtual curfew was imposed in the border town of Phuntsholing. The Bhutanese Government declared that those who had left the country were *Ngolops* (anti-nationals) and they and their family would have to forfeit their citizenship.

> The strife is likely to split the country down the middle and bring the monarchy's existence into question.

That the issue is grave is clear from the fact that while the Nepalis resent the 'Bhutanising' of the country, the Bhutanese are alarmed at the proliferation of Nepalis. The Government even suspects the Nepalis' loyalty. A senior official feels most northerners look upon the Nepalis in the south as foreigners. Says Dago Tshering, the deputy home minister—and arguably the second most powerful man in Bhutan—while justifying the decision to stop teaching Nepalese in schools: "In our experience the Nepalis identify more with Nepal than with us."

Consequently the Government has been trying to stem the growth of the Nepalis, even as it emphasises Bhutanese traditions. Alongside initiating a vigorous family-planning campaign in the south, a uniform code of conduct, namely 'Driglam Namzha', consisting of more than 30 injunctions, has been sought to be implemented. Since April last year the Bhutanese Government has borne upon the people to wear the national dress—

Refugees in Garganda tea estate in West Bengal



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

the 'Kho' for men and the 'Kira' for women. The women were also asked to cut their hair short and Dzonkha, the language spoken by the Drupkas in the north, was made compulsory. In an extraordinary move, the Government not only empowered the police to impose fines on people violating the code but, as an incentive, also allowed the police to pocket half the amount. Predictably the police went berserk and Thimphu now reluctantly acknowledges that the implementation of 'Driglam Namzha' could have been more tactful.

The Bhutanese plea that its sole intention was to preserve its distinct culture rings quite hollow. For, in both Thimphu and the towns in the south, Hindi films are regularly shown, and cassettes of even blue films are freely available. The elite dress in western clothes, and play games like golf and squash. And because the Dzonkha script is still being evolved, much of even the Government's correspondence is done in English. Apologises Dago Tshering: "It is my fault actually, I find it easier to write in English."

The real crux of the problem is the sharing of the national cake. Says an official: "In Bhutan both schooling and health facilities are free. Who wouldn't like to come and settle here?" Government spokesmen claim that in one district alone, Samchi, as many as 20,000 unauthorised immigrants have been unearthed, and most of them are Nepalis. That the Government has been seeking to weed out unwanted people is made clear by the census operation it started in 1988.

The Nepalis on the other hand are aggrieved that the cut-off point has been fixed as 1958. Says Dhan Bahadur Pradhan, now in a refugee camp in the Hantupara tea estate in India: "Even my grandparents were born in Bhutan but in 1958 there was no system of any citizenship certificate. Now I am being asked to show evidence of citizenship."

Meanwhile, the tea gardens in Jalpaiguri district of West Bengal are swarming with refugees. In the three tea estates of Garganda, Hantupara and Dumchipara alone, there are around 2,000. Hari Prasad Adhikari, a former member of the Bhutanese National Assembly, claimed at Garganda that there were 26 such camps on the Indo-Bhutan border. Adhikari himself claims to have left behind three children and his wife at Geyelepug. Among the women who have sneaked across are students who escaped from the hostels without informing their parents. Says Archana Chetri, a student of class nine at the Samchi high school: "Our hair was forcibly cut by the teachers, we were abused as foreigners and we heard reports of Nepali girls being raped—we decided to escape."

VIRTUALLY everyone in the camps has a horror story to tell. D.B. Rai, a contractor, was arrested last year and released in February under a general amnesty declared by the king. But Rai claims to have been tortured and released only after he signed a bond saying that he would refrain from political activities. Says he: "My licence was seized and when I got back home I was ostracised." Finally, Rai and his wife crossed over to India, leaving three of their children with his sister.

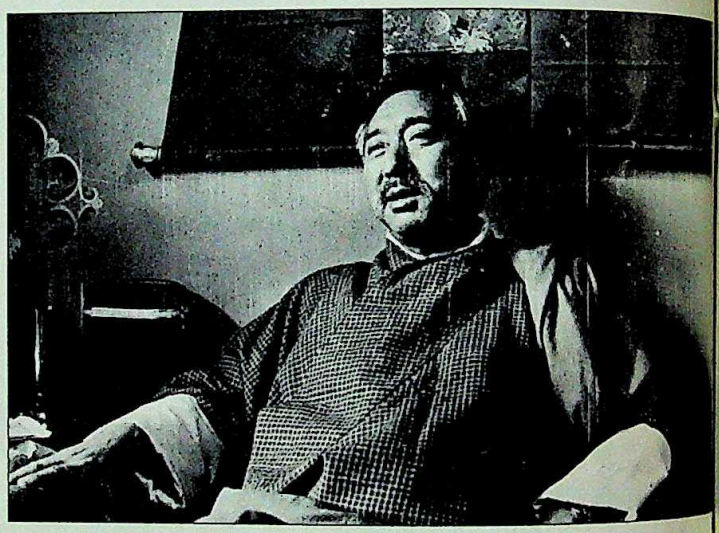
Thimphu accuses the Nepalis of indulging in subversion from across the border—of kidnapping and killing people. The Government is also dismissive of the rebel leadership, which is mostly in young hands. Most of the refugees too appear to be in their 20s or early 30s. Also many of them admit to be carrying on business in Bhutan, lending credence to the Bhutanese Government's allegations that it is businessmen, affected by the census, who are behind the unrest.

But the fact that as many as 10,0[illegible] of them have left the country lo[illegible] ominous, and neither Thimphu n[illegible] New Delhi can wish away the situa[illegible] tion. The rebels are likely to recei[illegible] help from the Nepalis living in India. [illegible] support has already been pledged b[illegible] the Gorkha Liberation Organisati[illegible] led by Chhatre Subba.

At Thimphu, the greatest appre[illegible] hension is over the possibility of [illegible] pan-Nepali movement promoted b[illegible] Kathmandu. As for New Delhi, it fear[illegible] that large numbers of idle Nepa[illegible] along the Indo-Bhutan border wi[illegible] create trouble. As one official says: "The Bodos, agitating for separa[illegible] from Assam, may join hands with [illegible] Bhutanese-Nepalis." But at the [illegible] ment, as they run short of funds, [illegible] hundreds of them fall sick, the re[illegible] are seeking the offices of the In[illegible] Government to get themselves a [illegible] prochement in their home cou[illegible] Says Khadanand Adhikari, a for[illegible] member of Bhutan's National Ass[illegible] bly: "A single phone call from [illegible] would be sufficient to restore pe[illegible]

But peace seems a distant m[illegible] The resentment and the call for de[illegible] racy and majority rule is unlikely [illegible] easily. In the months to come [illegible] dragon kingdom clearly faces a tri[illegible] fire. —UTTAM SENGUPTA in Th[illegible]

Tshering: harsh measures



Nepalis resent the 'Bhutanising' of the country and Bhutanese are alarmed at the proliferation of the Nepalis.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

here Style And Fashion Meet

Burlingtons'

6655

Burlingtons' Taj Mahal Hotel, Bombay • Burlingtons' Park Mansions, Calcutta • Burlingtons' Ashoka Hotel, New Delhi

NOW AVAILABLE ! INDIA'S FIRST MAIL ORDER CATALOGUE ! FOR A FREE COLOURFUL BROCHURE, WRITE TO :

Burlingtons' Home Shopping A 15-16, Sector 2, Noida 201 301, U.P.

Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts Kanha Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Of the thousands of reasons we're are just 26 reasons why we ha gr

Automobile
Bridge
Cylinder
Drum
Elevator
Fan
Gun
House
Injection
Jet
Knife
Locomotive
Motor
Nail
Oven
Piston
Quay
Rig
Ship
Train
Utensil
Van
Watch
Xylophone
Yacht
Zip

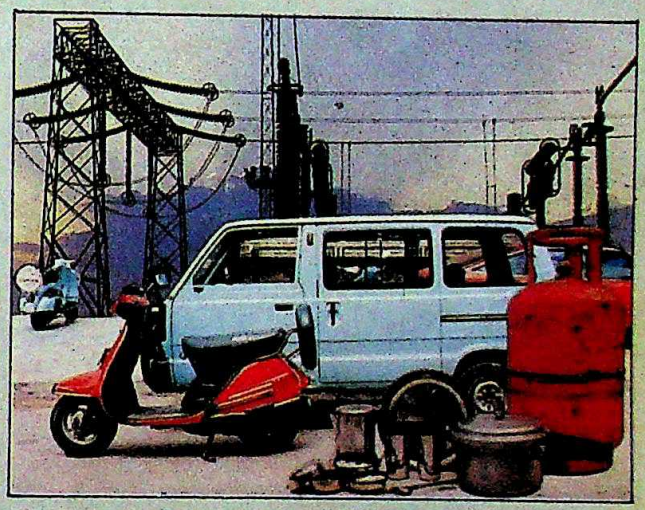
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

We're into steel, here to grow.

Rising to meet the growing demand of a country that's poised to become a superpower.

From Automobiles to Zips, in Steel one can virtually see the world. And if India is to attain its industrial Super Power Status we need steel makers with leadership qualities. **Like Rathi Alloys.** A Company whose growth has consistently shown a steep climb ever since its inception in 1970. In 1989-90, the Company broke the magical Rs. 100 Crore turnover barrier.



Much of the credit for this achievement goes to its products like **Stainless Steel, Alloy Steel, Wire Rods, Tor Steel and others.** Both domestic & industrial, that command great respect among the Company's clients.

... And today, like the country, **Rathi Alloys** is moving on to greater things... **an expansion plan, to manufacture H.R. Coils in stainless steel, electrical grade and LPG grade, that has you too in mind...**

RATHI ALLOYS & STEEL LTD

Sobhagya/198/90

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Some moments mean so much mo

Moments of joy.
Moments of laughter.
Moments of togetherness.
Made more tasteful with Baba.
For complete tobacco satisfaction...
without lighting up.

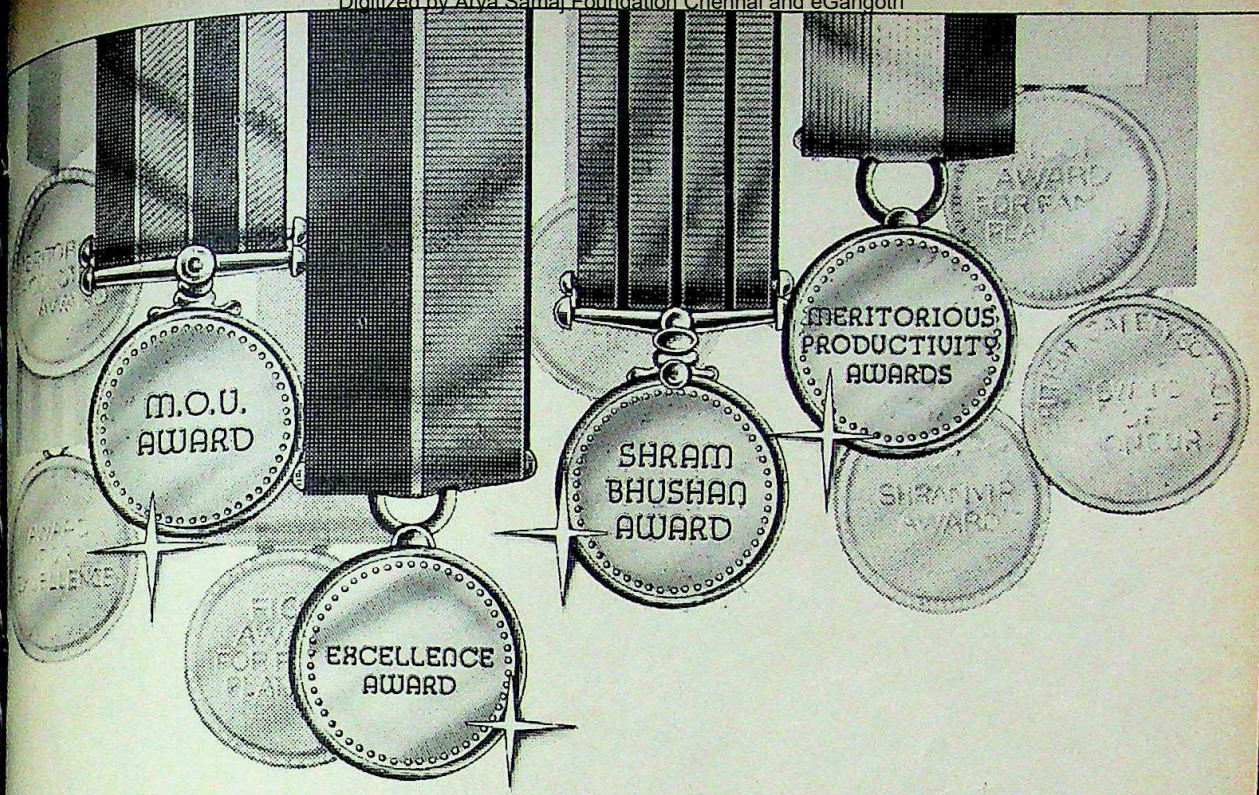
The unbeatable great original.

BABA®
FLAVOURED CHEWING TOBACCO

STATUTORY WARNING:
Chewing Tobacco is Injurious to Health

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



NTPC continues its Award winning spree

At NTPC, the winning spirit permeates every aspect of life. Be it overall performance, financial growth, productivity or innovative work culture.

Recently, NTPC has bagged a host of prestigious awards, once again based on its meritorious performance.

NTPC has won the 'Award for Excellence' for the year 1987-88 for its outstanding performance as a Public Sector enterprise. The award was presented to NTPC on August 11, 1990. This is the second time in three years that NTPC has bagged this award.

It has won another prestigious award for exceeding MOU targets in almost all areas — be it capacity addition, plant operation, setting up transmission lines or profitable performance during the year 1989-90.

The 'Meritorious Productivity Awards' have also been bagged by three NTPC units—Singrauli, Vindhyachal and Ramagundam for high power generation.

On Independence Day 1990, the Government declared the Prime Minister's *Shram Bhushan* Award for four NTPC employees of the Ramagundam Super Thermal Power Station. In fact, NTPC workers have won the *Shram* awards every year since inception.

All these accolades inspire the 21,000-strong NTPC employees to aim higher and strive harder to continue to excel in Power Management.

Excellence is a way of life at NTPC.

NTPC

नेशनल थर्मल पावर कारपोरेशन

National Thermal Power Corporation Ltd.

Ideas Inc.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

MADHYA PRADESH

The Vanishing Tribes

Sterilisation causes sudden drop in population

MANGAL Singh, 25, and his wife Aashki, 24, from Deogaon village of Raipur district are Kamars, one of the poorest and most primitive tribes in Madhya Pradesh. The couple rue the day when Mangal decided to undergo vasectomy, lured by the incentive money and egged on by over-zealous officers. The couple had two children at the time of the operation. Soon after however, their daughter, and a little later their three-month-old son died of malnutrition.

The case of Mangli, 43, a Kamar from Baruka village in Raipur district is not much different. Since the death of her husband three years ago, she has been alone. She had three children but all of them died. The poor woman ekes out a living by weaving bamboo mats. With tears in her eyes she says: "There are days when I have to go without food. If only I had a son."

There are hundreds of Manglis, Aashkis and Mangals among tribals in Madhya Pradesh. Over the last two decades the population of 20 tribes, numbering around five lakh, is decreasing. The growth rate of three other tribes is much below the state average of 25 per cent growth in ten years. If the trend continues, many tribes may become extinct by the turn of the century.

Particularly astonishing is the case of the Oraon tribals, inhabiting Raigarh and Surguja districts bordering Bihar. In 1961 they numbered 2.83 lakh. Ten years later their number rose to 3.70 lakh. But in the last census the tribe registered a startling 76 per cent fall, totalling at 88,817.

A concerned Planning Commission took up the matter with the Madhya Pradesh Government last year, asking it to study the reasons behind the steep fall in Oraon population. The census officials in Bhopal are surprised and feel that something probably went wrong at the data collection stage. Says the Director of Census Operations, Dilip Mehra: "There is no other explanation because nothing short of genocide could have resulted in such a big decrease."

But an investigation into the matter shows that it could indeed be a genocide. The matter is certainly grave for it is not Oraons alone whose population has shown such a sharp decline. There are more than a dozen tribes whose population has dropped by 75 per cent. In some cases, like the Korkus, it fell by as much as 95 per cent—from 10,000 in 1971 to a mere 470, around 10 years later.

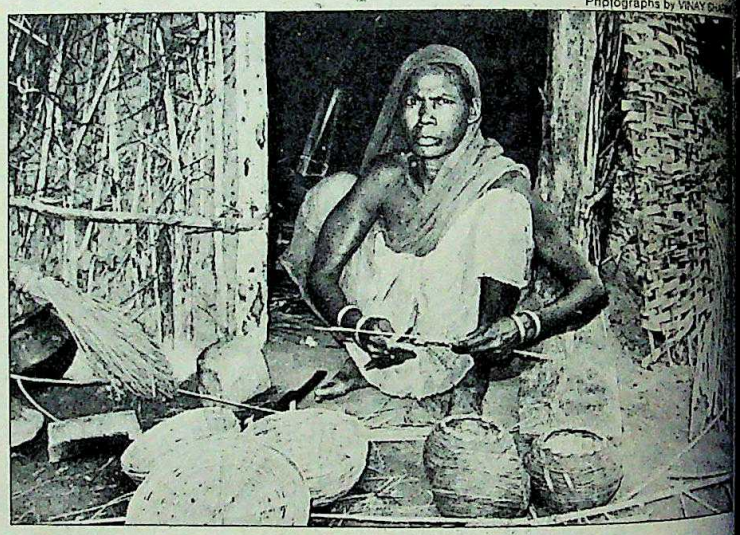
The Munda population went down by 88 per cent during the same period, from 14,000 to 1,579. Says Alexander Topno, a Munda from Tapkara in Raigarh district: "There is no obvious reason for this fall as migrations are anyway mostly within the state and could not be the reason for the drop."

The number of childless persons in such tribes is simply staggering, a phenomenon that can be seen most glaringly among the Kamars. Take the case of Sukhdeo, 50, and Maniharin, 45, from Baruka village in Raipur district. The Kamar couple has no children now. They had two sons and both died. Laments Maniharin: "There is no one to feed us in our old age."

Harai village in Sidhi district is inhabited by Khairwars, one of the endangered tribes whose population has shrunk from 62,909 in 1971 to 14,375 in the last census. An official study by the Bhopal-based Tribal Research Institute (TRI) says: "The reason for the fall in population seems to be malnutrition, sexually transmitted diseases and the high rate of infant and child mortality."

The TRI did a remarkable study of the tribal population in November 1988, when the then prime minister Rajiv Gandhi, visited the Kamar tribe in Chhattisgarh region. According to the confidential report—still kept under wraps but a copy of which was obtained by INDIA TODAY—the death rate among the Kamar, Bharia and Khairwar tribes is over 300 per thousand as against the state average of 14 per thousand. The infant and child mortality rate is also very high—over 30 per cent. Very few persons survive after 60.

Photographs by VINAY SHARMA

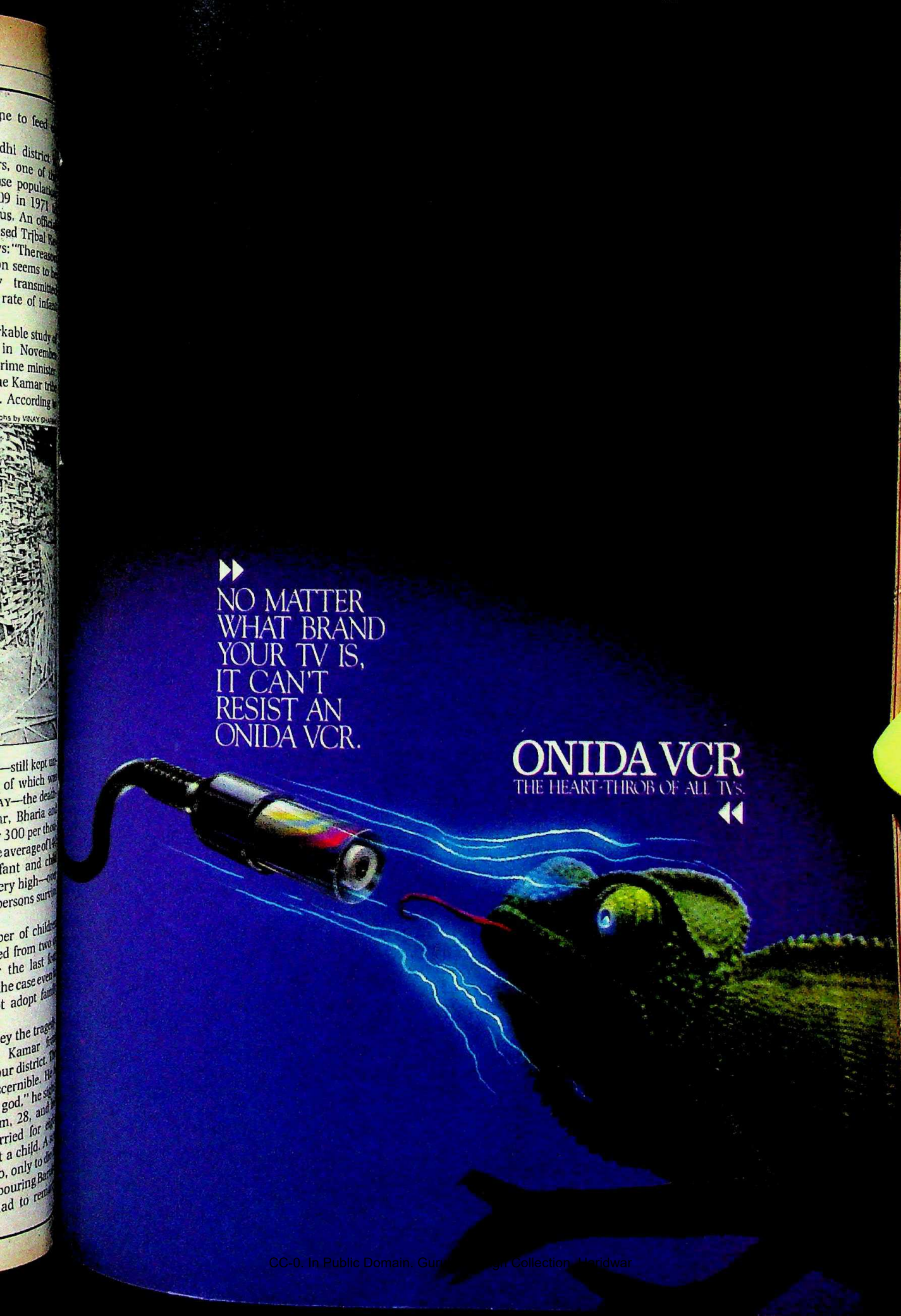


After the death of her husband, Mangli's three children too died. She lives by weaving mats.

The average number of children among the tribes varied from two to three per family over the last few generations. This was the case even in families which did not adopt family planning methods.

Figures fail to convey the tragedy. Take Marhu, 70, a Kamar from Pantora village in Raipur district. The pain in his eyes is discernible. He is childless. "The wish of god," he sighs. His nephew Dullu Ram, 28, and his wife, Jayatri, 26, married for eight years, are also without a child. A child was born five years ago, only to die in his cradle. In the neighbouring Baruka village, Ishwar, 24, had to remain

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

For over five decades, Mukand has been synonymous with steel.

Mukand is India's largest producer of the widest range of stainless and speciality steels; leads in exports

biggest, most complex cranes and machines; helps
her rockets; and undertakes execution of turnkey e
neering projects. Making it a multi-product, multi-
Rs. 500-crore conglomerate.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

nes; helps
turnkey
et, multi-

tion, research and development has given them a rare
into steel and its applications. Mukand knows how to
steel, engineer it and use it effectively.
years, Mukand has truly become a mastermind

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

MUKAND LTD.

Singapore Airlines introduces Raffles Class.
(It's more than just Business as usual.)

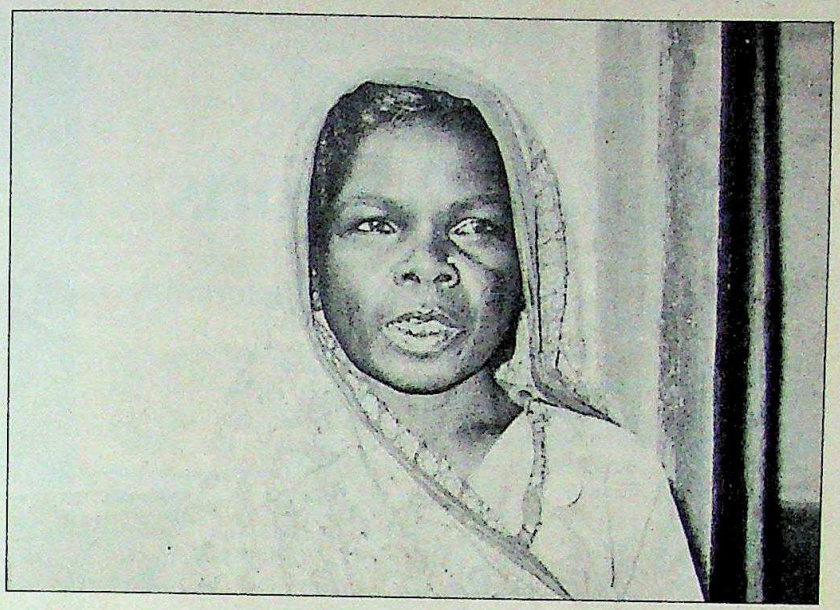
We don't have a Business Class anymore. Instead, we have Raffles Class. Where gentlemen can freshen-up with toiletries

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

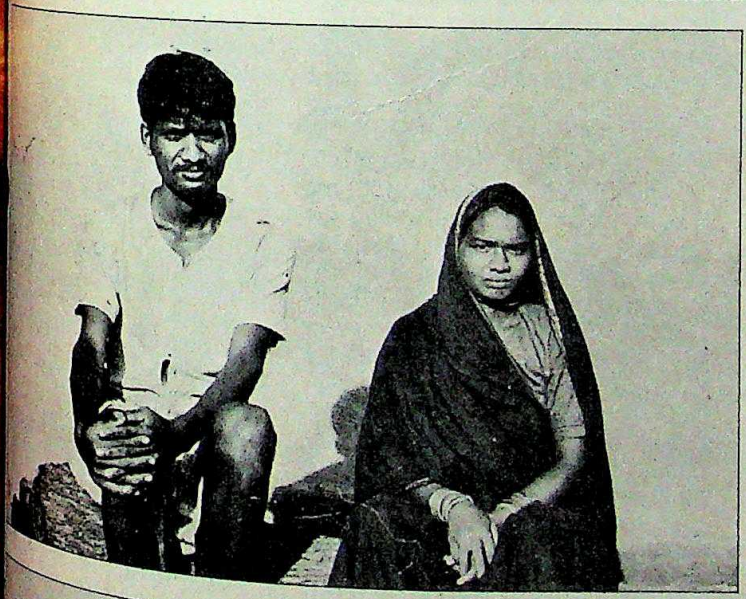
after his first wife left him as he could not sire a child. In Jhukei village of Raigarh district, a 35-year-old Kondh tribal recalls how four of his six children died soon after birth.

Son Singh, 40 and his wife Phekan 35, are Kamars from Barukha village. They now have a son and a daughter who is married. But they had two more children who died. Phekan underwent the sterilisation operation a few years ago just before the two children died. Says she: "I wish I had one more son to help with the farm job." Another Kamar couple Ramlal, 26 and Ramshila, 25, of Jargaon village in Raipur district have only one daughter now. Their only son died two years ago.



YET this has not provoked any sympathy from the Government. On the contrary, figures show that despite the tragedy the state Government has callously carried on a relentless sterilisation drive in the tribal districts. The decline in the population of most of 20 tribes noted between 1971 and 1981 census is apparently a result of the forcible sterilisation during the Emergency. In fact, till 1971 most of these tribes had shown an average growth rate and the sharp decline is seen between 1971 and 1981. "These tribes may become extinct if a sterilisation drive is launched among them," says the exhaustive TRI study.

Both the sons of Kamar tribal Maniharin died. Now she and husband Sukhdeo have to fend for themselves.



Dullu Ram and Jayatri, married for eight years, are childless. Their only son died in his infancy.

But the Government is doing precisely this. Figures for the eight tribal districts in the state (Raigarh, Surguja, Bastar, Dhar, Jhabua, Khargone, Mandla and Shahdol) show that in 1981-82 four districts achieved more than 100 per cent of their sterilisation target.

The following year five of these districts and the year after that two districts crossed the targets fixed for them. In 1989-90, six tribal districts had a better sterilisation count than the state average. Last year two tribal districts, Bastar and Mandla, secured first and second places in sterilisation among the 45 districts in the state. In 1983-84, Raigarh and Mandla, secured first and second places.

Studies reveal that most of the tribal families adopting family planning methods are economically weaker compared to those who do not. The per capita income of Kamars adopting family planning was Rs 840 as against Rs 932 of those who did not adopt family planning. In the first group 20 per cent of the families were in debt as against only 4 per cent in the second group.

In 1979 the Janata government banned sterilisation among nine tribes and 26 tribal development blocks after the Tribal Welfare Department noticed the decline in the population of certain tribes apparently due to the Emergency excesses.

However, as the census figures two years later revealed, the ban covered only two of the 20 tribal groups and anyway it was observed more in the breach. The situation now is that the tribals are on the verge of extinction even as the Government machinery is moving at a fast pace to collect all the prizes for meeting the sterilisation targets set by bureaucrats who obviously have no idea of the extent of damage it has caused. In a manner, it is a genocide of the innocents by the state.

—N.K. SINGH

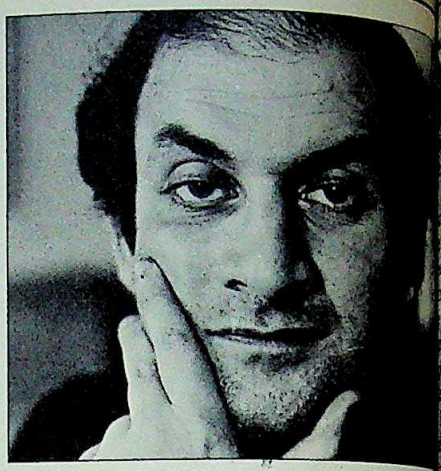
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

SALMAN RUSHDIE

Oceans of Magical Notions

In hiding, Rushdie creates a masterwork



Haroun and the Sea of Stories
By SALMAN RUSHDIE
Granta Books, UK:
Price: Rs 415
And with Penguin Books in India
Price: Rs 175; Pages: 224

FINALLY the opportunity for everyone to become Rushdie-literate is at hand. Read-o-meters in western magazines some months ago concluded that a mere 2 per cent of those who bought *The Satanic Verses* eventually deigned to read it (not as abysmal as it sounds considering the tome sold by the stacks); but now our litterateur in concealment has put out a book that everyone will read, and more importantly can read—erudition, religion, nationality and age no bar.

Not that Rushdie has broken his magical mould to write a simplistic yarn aimed at the lowest common denominator; he has merely, with the prestidigitator's elan, swung his abracadabra formula around to produce that enviable masterwork: a children's classic. *Haroun and the Sea of Stories* can be enjoyed by adolescent and adult alike, read as it can be at several levels: as fable, fantasy, adventure, allegory, and by those obsessed by topicality as an oblique, lyrical defence of his artist's license, so rudely and terminally impounded by the Islamic gendarmes.

Haroun is a young boy who lives in a city so ruinously sad that it has forgotten its name. One day his mother elopes with the neighbour, and his father, Rashid the story-teller, the Shah of Blah, with oceans of notions, loses his gift of the gab. This is doubly serious because he has contracted with unscrupulous politicians to deliver vote-catching stories at the Valley of K (Kashmir). On the eve of their assignment when Haroun and the Shah of Blah settle down for the night in a house boat on the Dull Lake, they are fearful for the future. But then Rushdie gives his wand a flourish, and the story takes wing.

On that fateful night, Haroun meets Iff, a Water Genie and a Guppee, who has come from the moon Kahani to disconnect Rashid's subscription from the Sea of Stories. All this is done by a P2C2E, a Process Too Complicated To Explain. Haroun gets the drop on Iff by seizing his irreplaceable Disconnector; he then blackmails the Water Genie into taking him to Kahani so that he can ensure his father's story-water supply is not cut off.

Haroun and Iff, astride Butt the Hoopoe, arrive in Kahani to find the Guppees, guardians of the Sea of Stories, in an epileptic rage. Inspired by the Cultmaster of the Union of the Zipped Lips, Khattam-Shud (the end: every story's arch enemy), who worships the idol Bezaban, the Chupwalas are dangerously polluting the Sea of Stories. Living in perpetual darkness, the Chupwalas are trying to silence the Guppees, whose greatest article of faith is an unbridled freedom of speech. compound their crimes, the Chup have captured the Guppee prin Batcheat. The inevitable war betw speech and silence, between light darkness, between democracy and tatorship, between good and bad sues. And at the Battle of Bat-Mat all these conflicts are resolved.

In one of those little ironies in w literature is awash, Rushdie fr depressing incarceration has prod a work soaring in the imagination at a time in his life when he must be bitterest, written by far the least c of his novels—though it is less than enthralling. He has also once paid tribute to his origins, and the abounds as it does with Hindi terms, can be enjoyed more by an reader than any other.

Displaying influences that from Tintin to Peter Pan, the book now and today, and of tomorrow anytime, and is destined to be children's classic, illustrated next made into an animation film th after. Rashid for his services to th of Gup wins the country's highest ration, the Order of the Open Rushdie should be awarded the s writing *Haroun and the Sea of S*

—TARUN J

INDIA TODAY **presents exclusive pre-publication extracts from *Haroun and the Sea of S***

TO be precise: Haroun had just dozed off when he was woken by a creaking and a rumbling and a groaning and a mumbling; so his first thought was that his father hadn't found the turtle any easier to sleep on than the peacock. Then he realized that the noise wasn't coming from the Turtle Room, but from his own bathroom. The bathroom door was open and the light was on, and as Haroun watched he saw, silhouetted in the open doorway, a figure almost too astonishing for words.

It had an outsize onion for a head and outsize aubergines for legs, and it was holding a toolbox in one hand and looked like a monkey wrench in the other. A burgl

Haroun tiptoed towards the bathroom. The being was talking non-stop in a mumbling, grumbling w

'Put it in, take it out. The fellow comes up here, sa come and install it, rush job, never mind my work

—Then, wham, bam, he cancels his subscrip guess who has to come back and take the equipment away, pronto, you'd think there was a fire. —Now w put the blasted thing? —Has somebody been med

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

t trust anybody any more. —Okay, okay, okay, let's be ical.—Hot tap, cold tap, go halfway in between, go up air six inches, and there should be your Story Tap. —So is gone? Who's pinched it? —Whoops, what's this? — is that where you are? Thought you could hide from I've got you now. Okay. Time to Disconnect.'

While this remarkable monologue was being delivered, Khalifa moved his head very, very slowly, until half an looking around the door-jamb into the bathroom: he saw a small, ancient-looking man, no bigger than wearing a huge purple turban on his head (that was tion') and baggy silk pajamas gathered at the ankles were the 'aubergines'). This little fellow sported an full set of whiskers, of a most unusual colour: the most delicate shade of sky blue.

Haroun had never seen blue hair before, and leant forward in curiosity; whereto his horror, the board on which he emitted a loud, able creak. blue-beard about, all the way three times, disappeared; his haste he the monkey fall from his Haroun into the bathgrabbed it and held

Illustrations by SUJATA SINGH

and in what like a most disfashion (though hard for Haroun to of this, as he'd never seen anyone materializing the little blue-beard reappeared in the bathroom. 'No enough's enough, party's over, fair's fair,' he Give it back.'

replied Haroun.

Disconnector,' the other pointed. 'Hand it over, to sender, restore to rightful owner; give up, yield, der.'

Haroun noticed that the tool he held was no more like key wrench than the blue-beard's head was like an In other words, it had the general outline of a wrench, was somehow more fluid than solid, and was made up of ds of little veins flowing with differently coloured all held together by some unbelievable, invisible force. beautiful.

're not getting it back,' Haroun said firmly, 'until you what you're doing here. Are you a burglar? Shall I call

mission impossible to divulge,' the little man sulked, 'top classified, eyes-only info; certainly not to be revealed nty-pants boys in red nightshirts with purple patches catch what isn't theirs and then accuse other people of thieves.'

very well,' Haroun said. 'Then I'll wake my father.'

,' said the blue-beard sharply. 'No adults. Rules and ations, totally forbidden, more than my job's worth. Oh, I this would be a terrible day.'

waiting,' said Haroun severely.

the little fellow drew himself up to his full height. 'I am the Water Genie, Iff,' he said crossly, 'from the Ocean of the Streams of Story.'

Haroun's heart thumped. 'Are you trying to claim you're really one of those Genies my father told me about?'

'Supplier of Story Water from the Great Story Sea,' the other bowed. 'Precisely; the same; none other; it is I. However, I regret to report, the gentleman no longer requires the service; has discontinued narrative activities, thrown in the towel, packed it in. He has cancelled his subscription. Hence my presence, for purposes of Disconnection. To which end, please to return my Tool.'

'Not so fast,' said Haroun, whose head was spinning, not only at the discovery that there really were Water Genies, that the Great Story Sea wasn't *only a story*, but also at the revelation that Rashid had quit, given up, buttoned his lip. 'I don't believe you,' he said to the Genie Iff. 'How did he send the message? I've been right with him almost all the time.'

'He sent it by the usual means,' Iff shrugged. 'A P2C2E.'

'And what is that?'

'Obvious,' said the Water Genie with a wicked grin. 'It's a Process Too Complicated To Explain.' Then he saw how upset Haroun was, and added: 'In this case, it involves Thought Beams. We tune in and listen to his thoughts. It's an advanced technology.'

'Advanced or not,' Haroun retorted, 'you've made a mistake this time, you're up the spout, you've got the wrong end of the stick.' He heard himself beginning to sound like the Water Genie, and shook his head to clear it. 'My father has not given up. You can't cut off his Story Water supply.'...

INTO THE TWILIGHT STRIP

HERE'S another Princess Rescue Story I'm getting mixed up in,' thought Haroun, yawning sleepily. 'I wonder if this one will go wrong, too.' He didn't have to wonder for long. 'By the way,' Blabbermouth said casually. 'I took the little liberty, at a certain Water Genie's *express request*, of removing, from under your pillow, the Disconnecting Tool which you *stole* without so much as a *by-your-leave*.'

Haroun, aghast, searched frantically through his bedclothes; but the Disconnector was gone, and with it the means of getting an interview with the Walrus in order to get Rashid's Story Water subscription renewed. 'I thought you were my friend,' he said accusingly. Blabbermouth shrugged. 'Your plan's *totally* out of *date*, anyway,' she replied. 'Iff told me all about it; but your *father's* here *himself* now, *he* can sort out his *own* problem.'

'You don't get it,' Haroun said. 'I wanted to do it for him.'

There was a fanfare of trumpets from the Pleasure Garden. Haroun jumped out of bed and ran to the window. Down below him in the Garden was a great commotion, or *rustling*, of Pages. Hundreds upon hundreds of extremely thin persons in rectangular uniforms that did, in fact, rustle exactly like paper (only much more loudly) were rushing about the Garden in a

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

most disorderly fashion arguing about the precise order in which they should line up, crying *'I'm* before you!'—'Don't be ridiculous, that wouldn't make sense, it's plain that *I* must stand ahead of you....'

All the Pages were numbered, Haroun noted, so it should have been a simple matter to decide upon their sequence. He put this to Blabbermouth, who answered, 'Things aren't quite *as simple* as that in the *real world*, mister. There are *plenty* of Pages with the *same numbers*; so they have to work out which *'Chapter'* they belong in, in which *'Volume'*, and so forth. Also quite often there are *errors* in the uniforms, so they've got on *completely* the *wrong* numbers anyway.'

Haroun watched the Pages jostling and arguing and shaking their fists in the air and tripping each other up, just to be awkward, and remarked: 'It doesn't seem like a very disciplined Army to me.'

'You shouldn't judge a *book* by its *cover*,' snapped Blabbermouth, after which (evidently a little put out) she announced she couldn't wait for Haroun any longer, as she was already late; and of course Haroun had to race after her, still in his red nightshirt with the purple patches, without even brushing his teeth or hair, and without having had time to point out a number of flaws in her arguments. As they ran along corridors, up staircases, down staircases, through galleries, into courtyards, out of courtyards, along yet more corridors, Haroun panted, 'In the first place, I wasn't "judging the book by the cover", as you suggested, because I could see all the *Pages*—and, in the second place, this isn't the "real world", not at all.'

'Oh *isn't* it?' Blabbermouth shot back. 'That's the *trouble* with you *sad city* types: you think a place has to be *miserable* and *dull as ditchwater* before you believe it's real.'

'Would you do me a favour?' Haroun panted. 'Would you ask somebody the way?'

By the time they reached the Garden, the Guppee Army—or 'Library'—had completed the process of 'Pagination and Collation'—that is to say, arranging itself in an orderly fashion—which Haroun had observed from his bedroom window. 'See you *later*,' gasped Blabbermouth, and fled in the direction of the Royal Pages in their maroon velvet caps who were standing neatly beside Prince Bolo as he capered and pranced dashingly (but a little foolishly) on his mechanical flying horse....

'For Batcheat and the Ocean!'

The Guppee forces were ready to depart. The Pages had climbed into the long Barge-Birds waiting for them in the Lagoon; Floating Gardeners and Plentimaw Fishes were likewise at the ready; Water Genies astride their various flying machines stroked their whiskers impatiently. Rashid Khalifa climbed abroad Butt the Hoopoe behind Iff and Haroun. Mali, Goopy and Bagha were by their side. Haroun introduced them to his father; then, with a great cry, they were off.

'How stupid we were not to dress more sensibly!' Rashid lamented. 'In these nightshirts, we'll freeze solid.'

'Fortunately,' said the Water Genie, 'I brought along a supply of Laminations. Say please and thank you nicely and I might let you have some.'

'Please and thank you nicely,' Haroun said quickly.

LAMINATIONS turned out to be thin, transparent garments as shiny as dragonfly wings. Haroun and Rashid pulled long shirts of this material over their nightshirts and drew on long leggings, too. To their amazement the Laminations stuck so tightly to their nightshirts and legs that they seemed to have vanished altogether. All Haroun could make out was a faint gleamy sheen on his clothes and skin that hadn't been there before.

'You won't feel the cold now,'' Iff promised.

They had left the Lagoon now, and Gup City was diminishing behind them. Butt the Hoopoe kept pace with the other speeding mechanical birds, and sprays of water were all around. 'How life does change,' Haroun marvelled. 'Only last week I was a boy who had never seen snow in my entire life, and now here I am heading into an ice-wilderness on which the sun never shines, wearing nothing but my nightclothes and with some strange transparent stuff as my only protection from the cold. It's a case of out of the frying pan into the fire.'

'Ridiculous,' said Butt the Hoopoe, having read Haroun's mind. 'A case of out of fridge into the freezer, you mean.'

'That's unbelievable,' cried Rashid Khalifa. 'It spoke without moving its beak.'

The Guppee armada was well under way. Gradually Haroun became aware of what started out as a low buzzing noise and grew to a dull murmur and finally a rumbling roar. It took him a while to recognize that this was the sound of Guppees engaged in non-stop conversation and debate of growing intensity. 'Sound carries over water,' he remembered, but this quantity of sound would have carried even over a barren waste. Water Genies, Floating Gardeners, Plentimaw Fishes and Pages were loudly arguing out the pro's and con's of the strategy to which they were committed.

Goopy and Bagha were as vocal on the subject as any of the other Plentimaws, and their bubbling cries of dissatisfaction grew louder as they moved further and further towards the Twilight Strip and the Land of Gup beyond:

'Saving Batcheat! What a notion!'

'What matters is to save the Ocean!'

'That's the plan to set in motion—'

'—Find the source of the Poison Potion!'

'The Ocean's the important thing—'

'—Worth more than the daughter of any king.'

Haroun was rather shocked. 'That sounds like mutiny. talk to me,' he suggested, and Iff, Goopy, Bagha and Mali found that very interesting indeed. 'What's a Mutiny?' asked Iff, curiously. 'Is it a plant?' Mali inquired.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chen angotri

solid.'
ought along
you nicely and

aid quickly.

nsparent gar
in and Rashid
eir nightshirts
mazement th
hirts and leg
er, All Haroun
his clothes and

sed.
Gup City was
behind them
opoe kept pace
ther speedin
birds, and
vater were a
low life does
Haroun ma-
y last week.
who had never
in my entire
ow here I am
to an ice-wa
which the sun
nes, wearing
ut my night
d with some
nsparent stu
ly protection
ld. It's a case
rying pan into

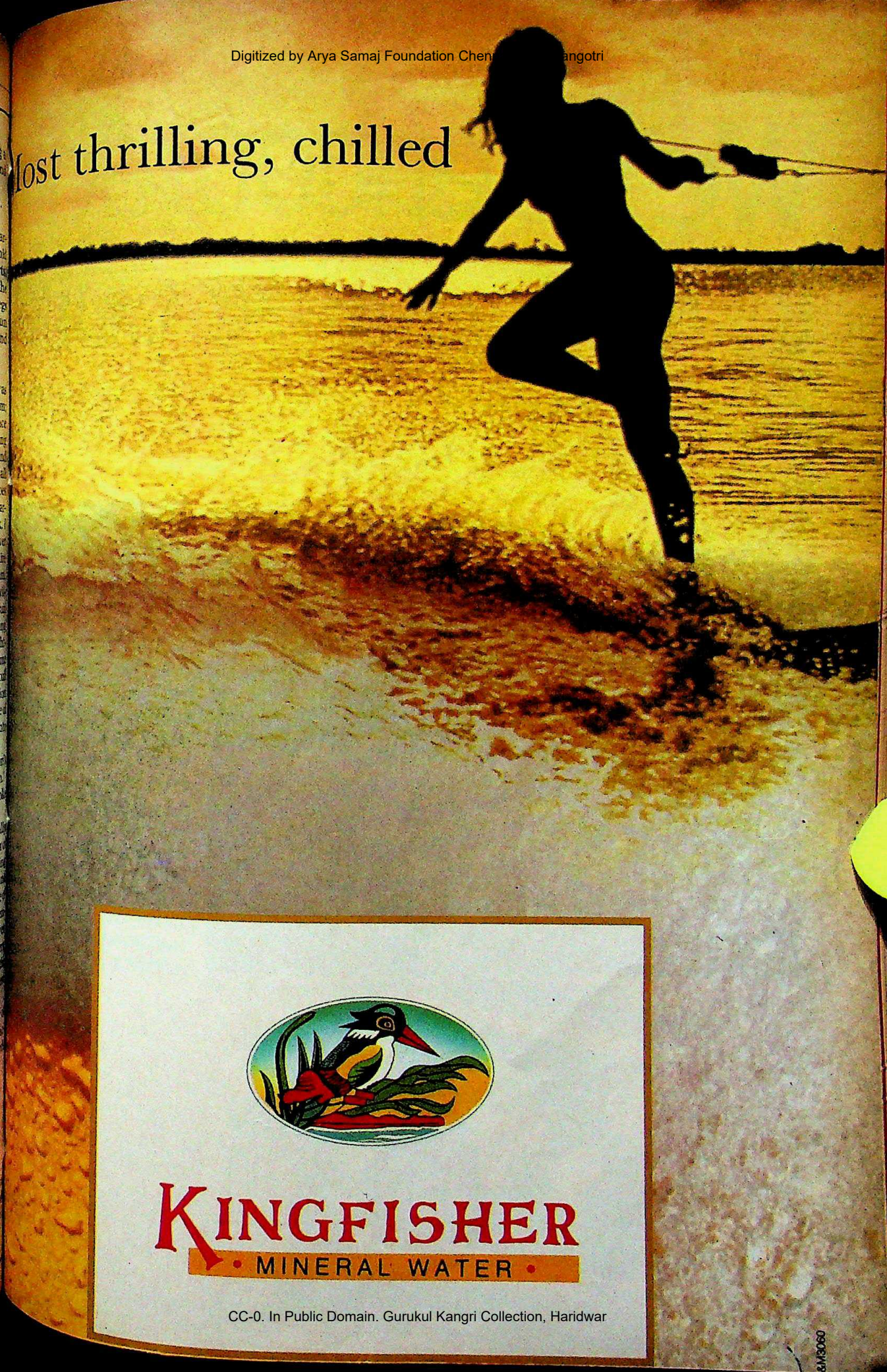
read Haroun
r, you mean
alifa. 'It spok

vay. Gradual
s a low buzz
lly a rumbling
was the sound
n and debate
er,' he remem
ve carried eve
ng Gardens
rguing out
ch they w

ubject as any
es of dissatisfa
urther town
vond:

!'

my king.'
s like mutin
agha and
's a Mutin
uired.



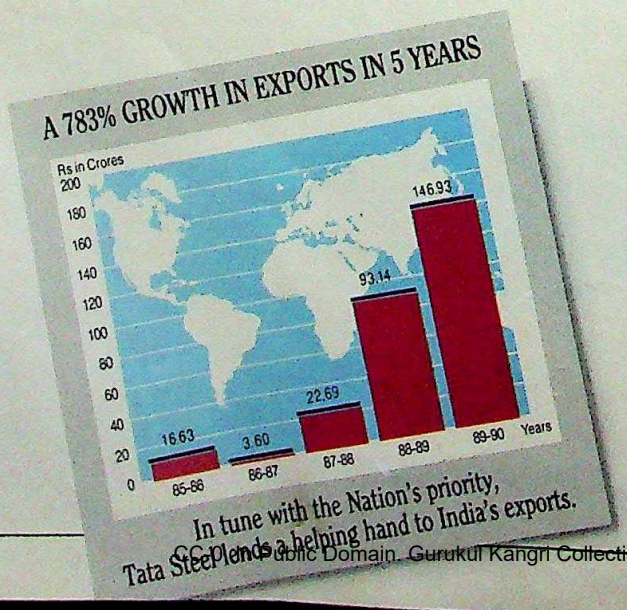
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

We've encourage to take a little coffe having a lot of stee tubes and wires

As foreign exchange is crunch in India and earning currency through exports a priority, in 1983-84, an eighty y pioneer decided to move into a which it had no major experience.

Six years later, Tata Steel is the country's largest exporters major markets in the USA, Australia and China and with sig entries into Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Turkey, West Germany, Bang Taiwan, Indonesia, Malaysia and countries. And, in spite of imp substantial amount of equipm



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

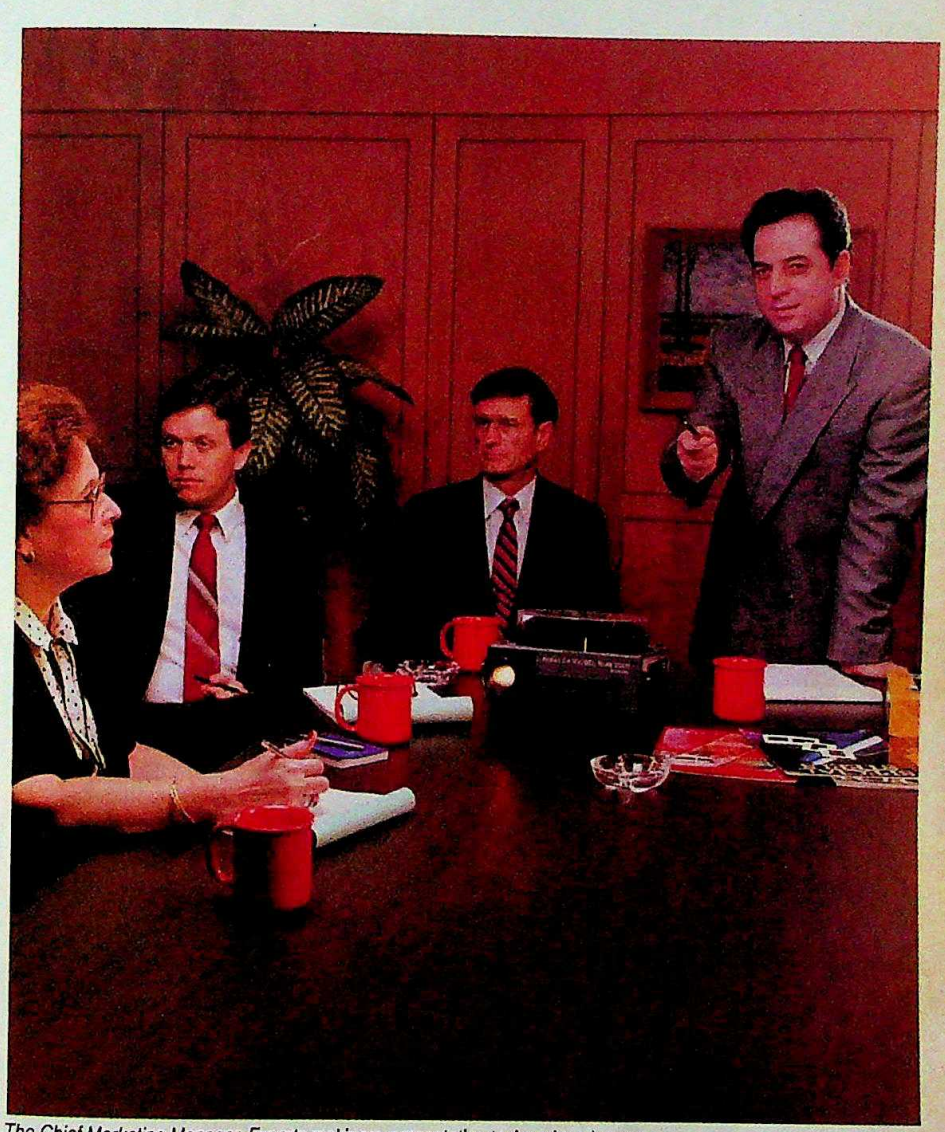
ene Americans ffe while

...erials for its on-going modernisa-...e, Tata Steel has become a nett ... In 1988-89, Tata Steel won the ...s EEPC shield.

...he decade of 90s is the Decade of ...s at Tata Steel. And the pioneer is ...g all its expertise and experience ...e seas to build a long term base ...n products — all over the world.

...Steel Exports:

- Wire rods, re-inforcing bars, structurals, tubes, wires, bars, cranes, rolls, bearings, etc.
- Chrome ore & concentrates, manganese ore, ferro-manganese, ferro-chrome, charge chrome, refractories, etc.
- Black pepper, coffee, black tiger shrimps



The Chief Marketing Manager, Exports, making a presentation to American buyers

TATA STEEL

DECADE OF EXPORTS

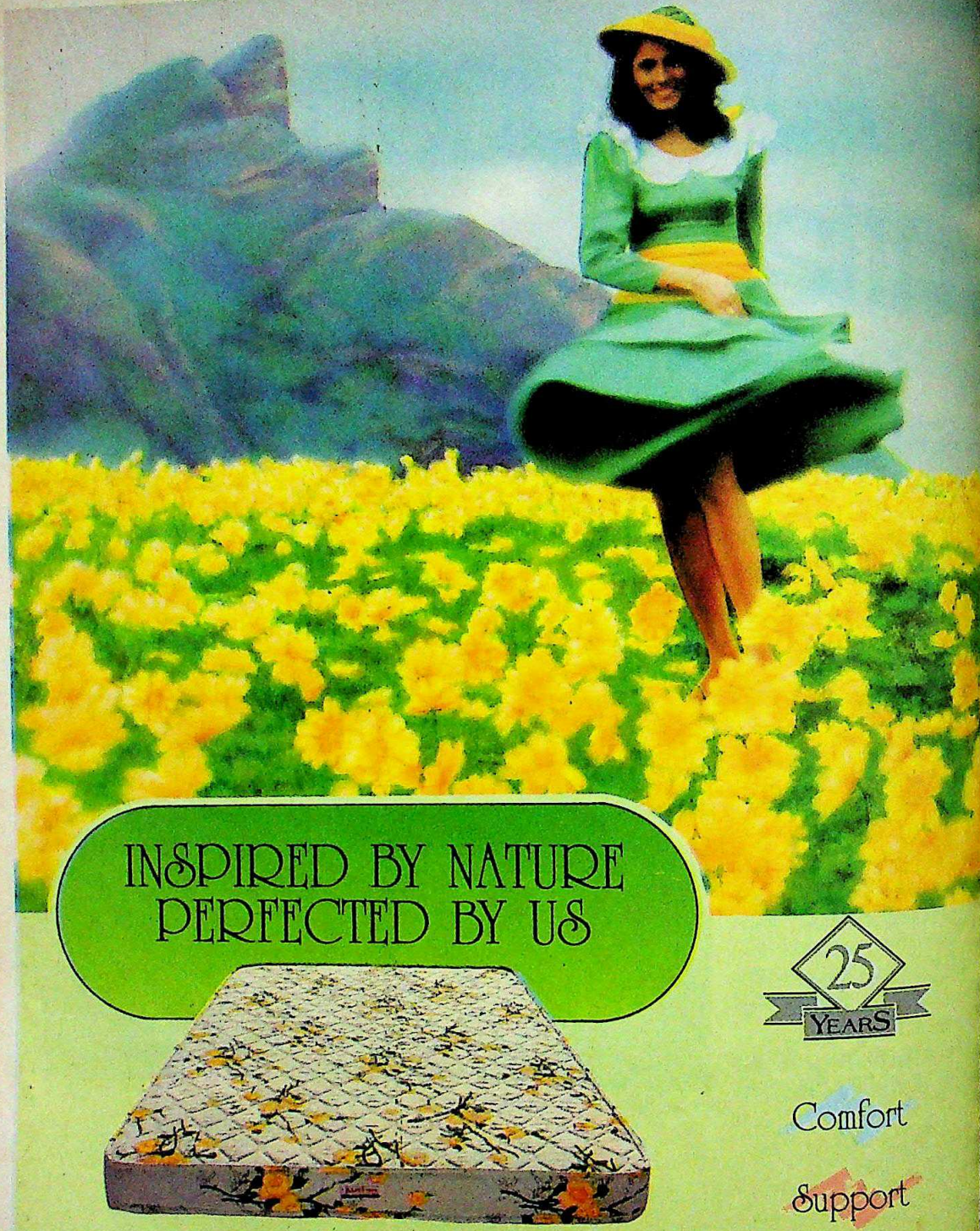
1990 2000

TATA STEEL

The first and still the foremost

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



INSPIRED BY NATURE PERFECTED BY US

25 YEARS

Comfort

Support

Elegance

KURL-ON Mattresses re-create the beauty and harmony of nature in a new range of tapestries, designed for timeless elegance.

Pure natural coir, generously sprayed with superior latex combine for perfect support and comfort.

And the quality of materials and workmanship make KURL-ON India's largest selling mattress.

Kurl-on

India's largest selling mattress

MASS/KCPL/90

Karnataka Consumer Products Ltd., Marketing Division: Industry House, 45, Fair Field Road, Bangalore-1. Ph: 260769, 262710.

Offices & Showrooms: Phone Nos.: Bangalore: 266746, 233212; Hubli: 73086 (PP); Mangalore: 23209; Cochin: 366744; Cannanore: 78861; Madras: 831710; Coimbatore: 26921; Hyderabad: 66561, 234560; Visakhapatnam; 65448; Tirupathi: 22235; Bombay: 5113220; Nagpur: 32939; Goa: 2[illegible] Bhubaneswar: 407740; New Delhi: 732133, 772919; Kanpur: 24701; Kangra: Collection Harrowa[illegible] 31702; Alwar: 20664; (C & F) Chandigarh: 29203, 44424 (PP).

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

'You don't understand,' Haroun tried to say. 'It's an Adjective.'

'Nonsense,' said the Water Genie. 'Adjectives can't talk.'

'Money talks, they say,' Haroun found himself arguing (all this argument around him was proving infectious), 'so why not Adjectives? Come to that, why not anything?'

The others fell silent for a sullen moment, and then simply changed the subject back to the issue of the day: which should take priority, saving Batcheat or the Ocean? But Rashid Khalifa gave Haroun a wink, which made him feel a little less crushed.

The sounds of heated quarrelling came across the water from the Barge-Birds: 'I say it's a Wild Goose Chase to go after Batcheat!'—'Yes, and what's more, she looks like a Wild Goose, too.'—'How dare you, sirrah? That's our beloved Princess you're talking about; our estimable Prince Bolo's intended and beauteous bride!—Beauteous? Have you forgotten that voice, that nose, those teeth...?'—'Okay, okay. No need to go into that.' Haroun noticed that old General Kitab himself, mounted on a winged mechanical horse very like Bolo's, was flitting from Barge-Bird to Barge-Bird to keep in touch with the various discussions; and such was the freedom evidently allowed to the Pages and other citizens of Gup, that the old General seemed perfectly happy to listen to these tirades of insults and insubordination without batting an eyelid. In fact, it looked to Haroun as if the General was on many occasions actually provoking such disputes, and then joining in with glee, sometimes taking one side, and at other times (just for fun) espousing the opposite point of view.

'What an army!' Haroun mused. 'If any soldiers behaved like this on Earth, they'd be court-martialled quick as looking.'

'But but but what is the point of giving persons Freedom of Speech,' declaimed Butt, 'If you then say they must not utilize it? And is not the Power of Speech the greatest Power of all? Then surely it must be exercised to the full?'

'It's certainly getting a lot of exercise today,' Haroun replied. 'I don't believe you Guppees could keep a secret to save your lives.'

'We could *tell* secrets to save our lives, however,' Iff replied. 'I, for example, know a large many secrets of great importance and interest.'

'I, also,' Butt the Hoopoe said without moving its beak. 'Shall we begin?'

'No,' said Haroun flatly. 'We shall not begin.' Rashid was beside himself with delight. 'Well, well, well, young Haroun Khalifa,' he chortled, 'you certainly did make some blinking smart friends.'

And so the Guppee armada proceeded on its merry way, with all its members busily dissecting General Kitab's most secret battle-plans (which, of course, he cheerfully revealed to anyone who cared to ask). These plans were itemized, scrutinized, rationalized, analysed, mulled over, chewed over, made much of, made little of, and even, after interminable wranglings, agreed. And when Rashid Khalifa, who was beginning to be as dubious as Haroun about the value of so much loose talk, ventured to question its wisdom,—then Iff and Butt and Mali and Goopy and Bagha fell to arguing about this question, too, with as much energy and passion....

SHADOW WARRIORS

HAROUN forced himself to listen, even though the Cultmaster's voice was boring enough to send a person to sleep in ten seconds flat. 'These are the Poison Blenders,' Khattam-Shud was saying. 'We must make a great many poisons, because each and every story in the Ocean needs to be ruined in a different way. To ruin a happy story, you must make it sad. To ruin an action drama, you must make it move too slowly. To ruin a mystery you must make the criminal's identity obvious even to the most stupid audience. To ruin a love story you must turn it into a tale of hate. To ruin a tragedy you must make it capable of inducing helpless laughter.'

'To ruin an Ocean of Stories,' muttered Iff the Water Genie, 'you must add a Khattam-Shud.'

'Say what you like,' the Cultmaster told him. 'Say it while you can.'

He went on with his terrifying explanations: 'Now the fact is that I personally have discovered that for every story there is an anti-story. I mean that every story—and so every Stream of Story—has a shadow-self, and if you pour this anti-story into the story, the two cancel each other out, and bingo! End of story.—Now then: you see here the proof that I have found a way of synthesizing these anti-stories, these shadow-tales. Yes! I can mix them up right here, in laboratory conditions, and produce a most efficient concentrated poison that none of the stories in your precious Ocean can resist. These concentrated poisons are what we have been releasing, one by one, into the Ocean. You have seen how thick the poison is here—thick as treacle. That's because all the shadow-tales are packed together so closely. Gradually, they will flow out along the currents of the Ocean, each anti-story seeking out its victim. Each day we synthesize and release new poisons! Each day we murder new tales! Soon now, soon, the Ocean will be dead—cold and dead. When black ice freezes over its surface, my victory will be complete.'

But why do you hate stories so much? Haroun blurted, feeling stunned. 'Stories are fun....'

'The world, however, is not for Fun,' Khattam-Shud replied. 'The world is for Controlling.'

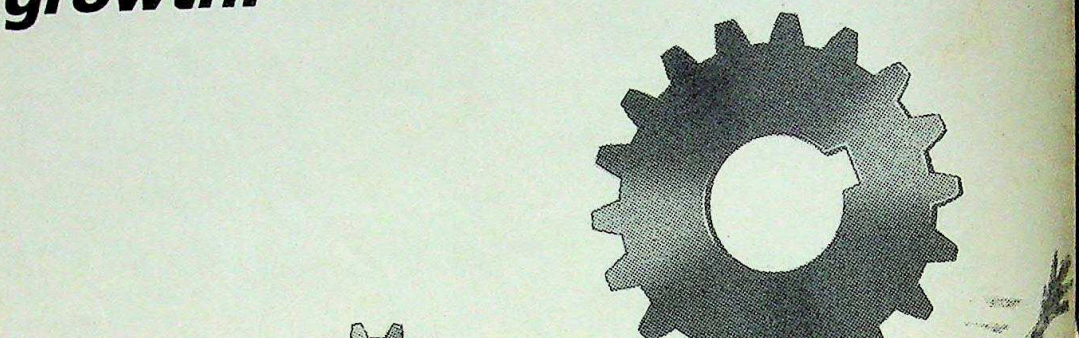
'Which world?' Haroun made himself ask.

'Your world, my world, all worlds,' came the reply. They are all there to be Ruled. And inside every single story, inside every Stream in the Ocean, there lies a world, a story world, that I cannot Rule at all. And that is the reason why.'

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

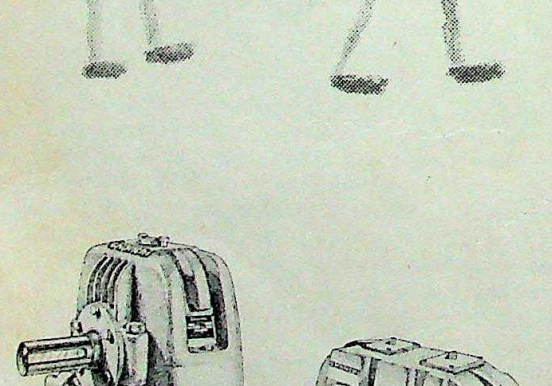
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

At Shanthi Gears customer confidence nurtures growth.



It is not surprising. Because customer confidence has resulted in increasing demand. And the only way to keep them confident is to grow. The result? Our turnover has grown six-fold in as many years; we are poised to double it.

No wonder that Shanthi Gears is the first choice of diverse industries like Textile, Cement, Rubber, Steel, Coal, Chemicals, Sugar, Paper, Pollution Control and Thermal Plants – among others.



Our Product range: Worm/Helical Gears and Gear Boxes, Geared Motors and Tailor-made Gear Boxes.

Shanthi Gears

Turning the Wheels of Industries

SHANTHI GEARS LIMITED
304-A, TRICHY ROAD, SINGANALLUR, COIMBATORE – 641 005
TAMILNADU, INDIA. PHONE: 0422-74241
TELEX: 0855-375 GEAR IN, 0855-302 SALE IN
TELEFAX: 0422-74245 GRAMS: "SANTHIGEAR"

• **Bombay:** Ph: 6140168, 6123587 Tlx: 011 78157 SALE IN • **Bangalore:** Ph: 645018, 646332 Tlx: 0845 2061 SALE IN • **Madras:** Ph: 582444, 587275 Tlx: 041 7193 SALE IN • **Madurai:** Ph: 88564 • **Delhi:** Ph: 5729959
Business Representatives at: Calcutta, Ahmedabad, Pune, Nagpur, Varanasi, Hyderabad, Vellore, Salem, Trichy, Cochin.

LINTAS M SG P1 S4

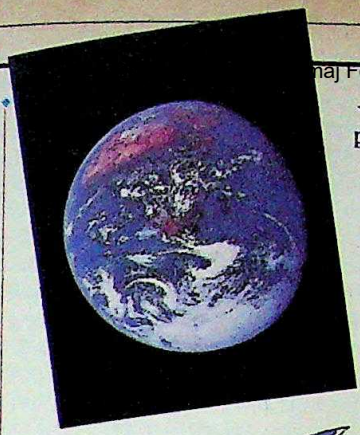
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

...naj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

◆ SOMEBODY'S obviously not watching up there. The nation was on the brink of caste wars—although DD seemed oblivious to it—when an earthy old Sikh farmer referred to his neighbours as *chura, chamar* during one of the "healing touch" programmes on Punjab. Doordarshan continues to blunder on, merrily. During a recent English news bulletin, one of the newscasters was talking about a Calcutta train mishap but the images behind her were of a typhoon in China. They did so for quite a while before the DD men realised that it wasn't the Hooghly and that those were Chinese cars floating on the turbulent waters. In fact, the Chinese commentary drowned out the news reader, who for a moment seemed to have undertaken a crash course in Chinese.

◆ ARE the Americans coming? From the bows and arrows of Kurukshetra and the guns of Indo-Pak encounters to a quantum jump this month to a high-tech motor cycle (Q, of James Bond fame, would be proud) which arches 7 metres in the air or "neutralises" with laser beams on the ground, in the American TV series *Street Hawk*. The series is at least six years old—with shades of *Shahenshah* and the Super-hero Jesse Mach (Rex Smith) fighting evil on the mean streets.

◆ ANOTHER serial with wider appeal is *Race to Save the Planet*, a 10-part series hosted by actress Meryl Streep and produced by WGBH, Boston with the University Grants Commission chipping in $30,000 (Rs 17 lakh) and an equal amount in Indian currency for the serial. It will later be expanded as a 26-part series in Hindi and Tamil. Professor Yashpal, chairman of the UGC has been actively involved from the outset.



◀ *Race to Save the Planet*: popular appeal

▲ *Street Hawk*: American drive

▼ Padukone: shuttling skills

▼ Tipu's sword: the Khan strikes back

◆ PERHAPS the I&B Minister, P. Upendra should add an R to his name: there's no faulting his PR. Last fortnight, nine-year-old Aathish Taseer wrote to him complaining that the last government at least showed programmes like *He Man* and *My Little Pony*. Back came a personally signed reply before Aathish could say, well,'He Man'. Thanking him for his "lovely letter", the minister wrote that his good suggestions had been sent to the director-general, DD. Now the little He man's a fan.

◆ AND now that Gavaskar's innings are over, Prakash Padukone, badminton's super-ace, has moved into the tele-field. And it's advantage Padukone with *Shuttletime*, a new TV series on great moments in badminton. It might be a different ball game but the handsome player has followed the little master's designs. There's Padukone teaching children the finer points of the game, interviews with great players and clips of outstanding matches. Another smash?

◆ Tipu Sultan's sword finally appears to be getting unstuck. Sanjay Khan gave himself a screen test to make sure he was ready to appear before the camera again for the first time since his ordeal by fire in Mysore. Obviously, he was. The episode in which he appears (or rather re-appears) was filmed in Jaipur last fortnight. Malvika Tiwari plays his lady love, Rukaiya.

—MADHU JAIN

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

REMO FERNANDES

Moving to a New Rhythm

The Goan emerges as number one pop star

ON television, he is featured as a pop singer in the commercial launching Lehar Pepsi. In magazines, he appears as a celebrity in full-colour double-spreads for a prominent brand of suitings. On stage, he is asked to perform at major international events—the closing ceremonies of the Festival of India in Moscow, the USSR Festival in Delhi, the MRF World Series final in Calcutta. Remo Fernandes, 37, singer and songwriter, has undoubtedly come a long way from a small town in Goa where he discovered his passion for music.

What makes Remo's work striking is that he was the first major Indian artiste to write and compose his own songs, many of which related directly to the Indian reality. So far, the English pop rock scene in India was dominated by musicians aping the West. Also, Remo's music isn't condescending, but passionate and satirical. Whether he is taking a dig at the telephone system *(Graham Bell)* or a newspaper's editorial policy (*Navhind Times Blues*), his lyrics are straight from the heart.

But Remo—described as a 'one man music company'—has now moved from protest songs to create a musical tribute to Mother Teresa. Tentatively titled *That Lady in Calcutta*, it is slated for release later this year by CBS. The album is a response to an encounter Remo had with Mother Teresa in Calcutta two years ago. Recalls the singer: "Suddenly this 72-year-old lady came running down rickety steps and clasped my hand. I was fascinated by her work. The idea came of composing music about her. I asked her permission, and she said, 'Do it with love for Jesus'." Though born a Catholic, Remo is a non-believer, so he has composed a special dedication for the album, which reads: I must confess here and now that I am not capable of feeling love for any one particular religion or god. I am making this music out of love for Mother Teresa; out of love for the Great Love in her heart.

Interestingly, Remo took a degree in architecture from Bombay in the late '70s, but returned to Goa determined to become a musician. He grew his hair and beard, smoked pot and wandered about the beaches with his acoustic guitar. People started regarding him as a waster. Remo was outraged, as he was spending all his time composing songs. That was what prompted him to write his first protest song, *For crying out loud*. The lyrics were hard-hitting: *Then come Sunday and you're always there/Kneeling and praying, with such a stupid stare/To a man with an even longer beard and hair*. Then he organised his own concert at the old Kala Academy. "I was worried how they'd take it. But they just loved it," he recalls.

Since then it has been a steady climb to success. Remo's appeal stems from his ability to address himself directly to his audience, an extraordinary achievement for someone who even stammered as a child. The intimate quality of his music comes through both in his love-songs and in his protest lyrics. "All my songs are based on personal experiences," says the singer. Some of his lyrical music relates to his family: French wife Michelle, and sons, four, and Jonah, one.

A year after the release of his album *Goan Crazy*, Remo—the ... ant risk-taker—shot into na... prominence when he defiantly s... med his number *Hello, Rajiv G...* before Rajiv and Sonia. Remo w... spired to pen the lyrics when com... tion of the Kala Academy, which dragged on for six years, was h... completed just before an earlier vi... Rajiv. Sang Remo: *I'd like to ask you down to susegad Goa, ... month/I'm not ... you out of fear or ... But out of very selfish motivation ... if you come down every month ... government will complete a proj... month/That's dragging along for ...*

The next day *The Navhind ...* carried a report on how Re... insulted Rajiv and defamed Go... began a smear campaign which ... even to the national press. ... Remo sent the clippings to R... Sonia, asking for their reactio... music. Rajiv wrote back saying ... enjoyed listening to his songs. ... ly, the controversy helped ...

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

a national name," he observes. Remo's reputation was further established in the mid-'80s. He composed music and sang for Shyam Benegal's film and Gul Anand's *Jalwa*. A second album, *Old Goan Gold*, of Konkani and Portuguese songs was released. Then came *The Pack that Smack*, with a strong, drug-drug title song.

The album also had the live recording of *Do Wie Do*, a love-song performed by Remo at the Dresden International Song Festival. It got him three prizes—Press Critics' Best Artiste Prize, the International Jury's Second Prize and the First Prize for "longest and loudest audience applause". Later he won the Grand Prix at Dresden for *Against You, Against Me*, the song from his album *Bombay City*. In fact, *Bombay City* has been the biggest seller so far as far as English pop rock is concerned, having sold around 25,000 copies already.

No wonder both Pepsi and Raymonds chose him to promote their products. Says Remo: "In India, there are no awards like the Grammys. So, when a business house approaches you for an endorsement, it's like an award. When Pepsi chooses you, it's the closest to getting a Grammy." He was reportedly paid Rs 2 lakh for the Pepsi commercial. In fact, Remo is said to take a maximum of Rs 60,000 for a stage appearance, at least a third more than the others.

Even in his down-and-out days, Remo had given full scope to his versatile talent. Though untrained in music, Remo took to it thanks to his father's encouragement. He first sang on stage at the Panjim Club at the age of five, set up his own band in school, and became part of the beat group, Savages, in college. During his two-and-a-half years in Europe in the late '70s he received invaluable, if informal, musical education, playing at cafes and underground stations for a living. On his return, he set up the innovative fusion group, Indiana, but it broke up. Remo then decided to become his own band. He taught himself recording engineering, pooled funds with Michelle and set up a mini-recording studio in his ancestral village Siolim, cutting his own albums by singing all the voices and playing all the instruments on the synthesizer. He even designed the jacket covers and marketed the cassettes himself.

But as he sits in the midst of the electronic gizmos recording the Mother Teresa songs, his focus is completely on the music. Says he: "I am very excited about this album. Finally, all sides of me as a composer will get expressed. The music won't be just pop rock—also old style jazz, semi-classical marches."

After the Mother Teresa album, Remo plans to work on an album combining pop rock with Indian folk beats. He also plans to cut an album of Goan folk songs. CBS plans to soon record his songs in Hindi translation. "People are making Hindi versions of Madonna and Michael Jackson. I might as well make a Hindi version of myself," says Remo with a twinkle in his eye. And between all this he still finds time to play live.

But along with the excitement there is a sense of frustration. Remo was disappointed when the Sunday evening Doordarshan pop show was scrapped. "The programme was finding its own identity. There was a chance something new would emerge from it, like reggae did in Jamaica," he laments. He is also sad at his inability to release singles. Many of his songs are topical—he wrote one when the Mandovi bridge collapsed, another when Nehru's name was exploited in the centenary year—and they need to be released close to the event for maximum impact.

But he is even sadder over the way Goa is changing. Says Remo: "A wedge is being driven between Hindus and Christians. I feel so disillusioned that I don't feel like writing even protest songs." He has sung passionately against intolerance in the past. Now this man with the undeniable musical talent is sitting by himself in a quiet Goan village giving expression to another reality: *She can see the unshed teardrop/She can hear the unuttered scream/She flashes through the darkness/Like a healing beam.*

The protest may have become a lament, but the intensity of emotion, and the quality of music remain.

—M. RAHMAN in Goa

Remo is the first major Indian artiste to write and compose own songs, many of which relate the Indian reality.

Photographs by NAMAS BHOJANI

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

NAMAS BHOJANI

Mubina: teenie rocker

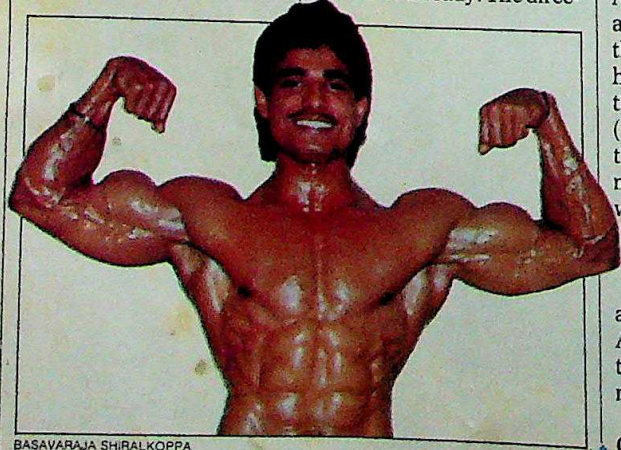
◆ School's out forever. Caught between college and the keyboard, Bombay-based **Mubina**, 17, decided to drop out of academics and become instead, the youngest English pop star to cut her own album. *17 Mean Machine*, which is scheduled for release by mid-September, is all about the problems of Indian teenagers—those caught between rules and rock 'n roll.

Mubina sort of discovered herself: she confidently marched into a music company office with a tape of herself. And came back with a contract. "I hope I'll be top of the pops one day," she says. Clearly, this teenager has no problems.

◆ Looking for brawn without bucks? **Raymond D'Souza**, 25, first flexed his muscles at the age of 19. And six years later he's still doing just that. On August 29, he was crowned Mr India for the fifth time.

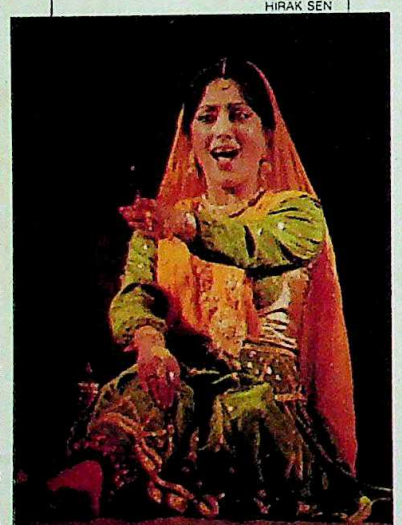
However, muscle without money isn't much fun. D'Souza complains that he has received absolutely no official support. In fact, he has even run up enormous debts to show his body at Mr World competitions. But he hasn't given up hope. "I will wait two more years for government recognition," sulks the incredible hulk who works as a clerk in a bank. "After that I will quit and marry." No bawdy talk, that.

D'Souza: muscle matters



BASAVARAJA SHIRALKOPPA

HIRAK SEN



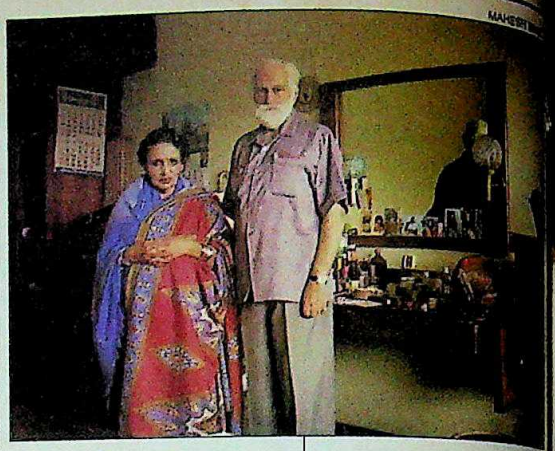
Sen: wowing audiences

◆ Now that she's over 40, **Aparna Sen** has decided to take another bow. That is, 250 bows already. The director of *36 Chowringhee Lane* has been wowing audiences with her triple role in the Bengali play *Pannabai* that has had 250 packed shows. Sen, a single woman again after her divorce, has her hands full. As a nautch-girl in *Pannabai*, she is reported to earn over Rs 20,000 a month. "I prefer the stage to films," she says. Soon, Pannabai will also become *Jamunabai*—a film based on the play.

◆ An affair with a playboy is dangerous enough, but to get involved with the Lord himself! **Sudha Chandran**, the disabled Bharatnatyam dancer, was dragged into a lengthy legal suit when she acted as a lovelorn girl-friend in the Tamil film *Nambinar Keduvathille* that was shot on the 18 sacred steps of Kerala's Sabarimalai temple. An angry devotee filed a case against the film team saying the house of Lord Ayappa had been made impure by the heroine's presence (women aren't allowed in the temple). Last month, the magistrate let the director off while Chandran was slapped with a fine or imprisonment. "It is curious only I was punished," she says. "I am a follower of Lord Ayappa and this happened to test my beliefs." Clearly, m'lord wasn't pleased.

Chandran: the Lord's wrath

MAHESH ...



Devika Rani and Roerich

◆ The brushes lie idle—but the room is full of bouquets. Ever since **Svetoslav Roerich**, 86, fell ill a year ago, his life has shrunk to a hotel room where a doctor can be a bell away. The famous painter, who has spent a year with his actress wife Devika Rani in a hotel room, is still mentally agile. "There is nothing better than the mountains," he says, hoping to return to his mountain home in Kulu some day. In the meantime, he is being immortalised: last month, a special Roerich gallery was opened in Bangalore. And soon, another centre dedicated to his family will open near the Kremlin.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

INDIAN SPIRIT

An epic
called the Mahabharata.
And a scooter
called Bajaj.
The first a story
of duty.
The second a story
of endurance.
Both reflecting the
great Indian spirit.

Bajaj Scooters:
Super, Chetak, Priya & Cub

bajaj auto
You just can't beat a bajaj
Bajaj Auto Ltd., Akurdi, Pune-411 035.

LINTAS BAJ 198 2719

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

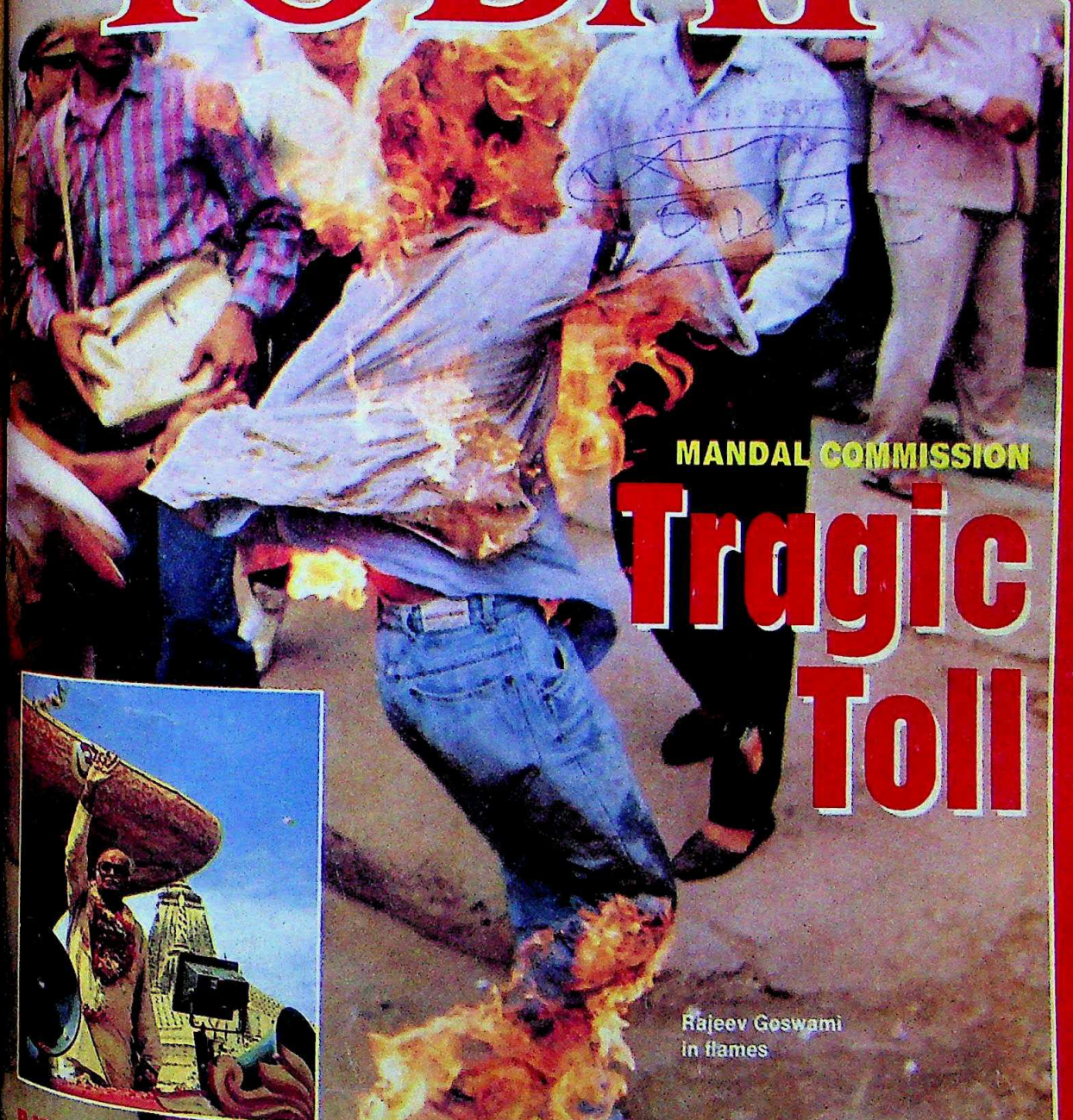
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

INDIA TODAY
OCTOBER 15, 1990

TODAY

ASIAD: POLITICAL UNDERTONES
PUNJAB: OPPORTUNITY LOST
DUBAI: CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM



MANDAL COMMISSION

Tragic Toll

Rajeev Goswami in flames

BJP

ON THE WARPATH

The dangerous revival of caste and communal confrontations poses the most serious threat to V.P. Singh's survival

INDIAN SPIRIT

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Some moments mean so much more

Moments of joy.
Moments of laughter.
Moments of togetherness.
Made more tasteful with Baba.
For complete tobacco satisfaction...
without lighting up.

The unbeatable great original.

BABA®
FLAVOURED CHEWING TOBACCO

STATUTORY WARNING
Chewing Tobacco is injurious to Health.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

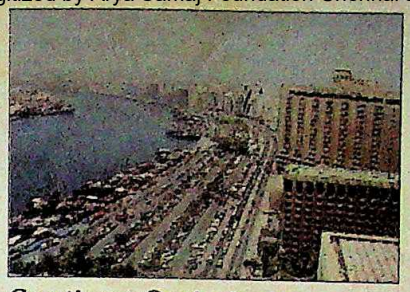
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

IN FOCUS THIS FORTNIGHT

Tragic Toll

Escalating by the day, the agitation against the Mandal Commission shook the Government to its very innards, threatening its survival and changing political equations. And even as that caste confrontation built up, the BJP's Rath Yatra brought another threat to the Government.

COVER STORY 26



Cautious Optimism

Combining the advantage of its geographical location on the world's trade routes with some of the world's most liberal economic laws, Dubai has turned itself into an economic powerhouse. And its heady growth shows little sign of being slowed down by the current crisis in the Gulf.

SUPPLEMENT 93

Political Undertones

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's annexation of Kuwait cast a long political shadow over the Beijing Asiad even before it got under way. But the impressive opening ceremony and the excitement of competition as the largest-ever Asiad took off from the blocks helped dispel some of the gloom.

SPORTS 174

End of an Opportunity

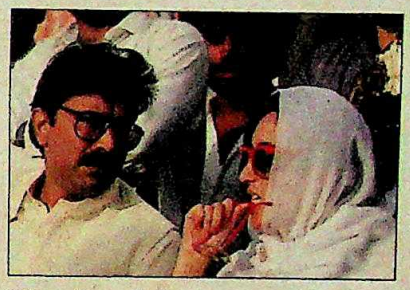
Another opportunity to restore the democratic process in Punjab has been squandered, and no succour seems to be in sight for the state's people. Also, by his decision to extend President's Rule, V.P. Singh has once again shown he is vulnerable to the diktats of his allies—the BJP and the Left.

SPECIAL REPORT 45

In Agonising Limbo

Braving the desert, marauding soldiers en route and scorching 50-degree Celsius heat to flee the Iraqi invasion, Indians from Kuwait on their way to India have had to face a different sort of hell in the refugee camps of Amman or in the no-man's land between Iraq and Jordan. A photo feature.

PHOTO FEATURE 86



The Crackdown Begins

The military-backed interim Government in Pakistan may have pushed Benazir Bhutto into a corner by filing one case after another against her and her husband, Asif Zardari. But this move appears to have misfired to some extent as Benazir has gained considerable public sympathy.

NEIGHBOURS 155

CONTENTS

COMMENT 11
CAPITALOOK 14
VOICES 19
INDIANOTES 20
COVER STORIES
National Parties:
The Politics of Nihilism 24
Mandal Commission
Tragic Toll 26
National Politics:
BJP on the Warpath 34
SPECIAL REPORT
Punjab: End of an Opportunity 45
CURRENT EVENTS
Haryana: Comeback Bid 51
Karnataka: Locked Horns 52
Inside Eye: Politics of Revenge 52
Kerala: Helping Hand 57
West Bengal: Panic Station 58
Modi Murder Case: Curious Turn 63
Orissa: Rivals Rise 66
Gujarat: Patel Power 66
Electronline: Made For Each Other 71
CARTOONSCOPE 72
SIGN POSTS 72
SPECIAL REPORT
Haryana: Promises that Failed 78
PHOTO FEATURE
Gulf Refugees:
In Agonising Limbo 86
SUPPLEMENT
Dubai: Cautious Optimism 93
BUSINESS FEATURE
Textile Industry:
Cotton Makes A Comeback 109
TRADE WINDS 117
BUSINESS
Industrial Policy: Listing Lethargy 118
Tamil Nadu: Waging Wars 124
Toothpaste Industry: Tight Squeeze 129
K.P.P. Nambiar: Suspect Role 130
Excise Duty: Refund Row 135
Businesspeak:
Protect Investor Interests 138
The Markets: Marching On 143
THE ECONOMY MONITOR 144
DIPLOMACY
Indian Foreign Policy:
Hostage to a Crisis 149
NEIGHBOURS
Pakistan: The Crackdown Begins 155
THE ARTS
Art Auctions: Socialite Evenings 159
GLOBE-TROTTING
United Kingdom:
Making Sound Waves 165
TELETALK 173
SPORTS
Beijing Asiad: Political Undertones 174
MEDIAWATCH 187
CINEMA
Chiranjeevi: Macho Megastar 190
BOOKS
Celebrity Capers 195
Peak Tales 196
EYE-CATCHERS 200

Cover photographs by RAVEENDRAN/AFP and PRASHANT PANJIAR

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

In its warp, In its weft, In its wea

ndi

Ahmedabad • Bangalore • Baroda • Bombay • Calcutta • Chandigarh • Coimbatore • Delhi • Ernakulam • Gorakhpur • Hyderabad • Imphal • Jaipur • Ma

Patna • Ranchi •

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

wear

India lives.

handloom house

Sarees • Dress Material • Readymades
Furnishings • Carpets • Bed, Bath & Table Linen

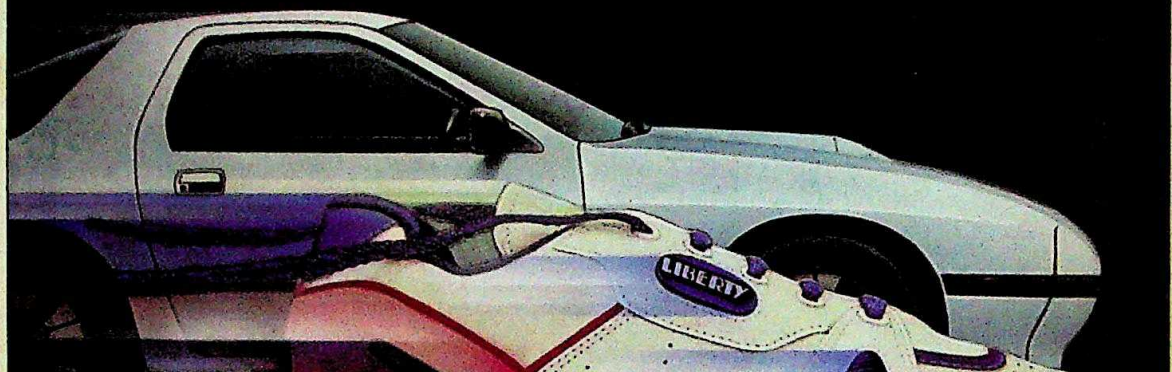
• Jaipur • Ranchi • Secunderabad • Surat • Vijayawada • Vishakhapatnam

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Interact:AIH:350

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Liberty introduces an exciting sports model!



FORCE 10 *Take a look at the design, the colour combination and the finish. The exclusive PU sole that helps you blaze a trail with sure-footed confidence. The supple inner lining that gently caresses your feet. The ergonomically designed interior that gives your toes a lot more freedom. And soft breathable upper that provides air- conditioned comfort. You've got a runaway winner here.*

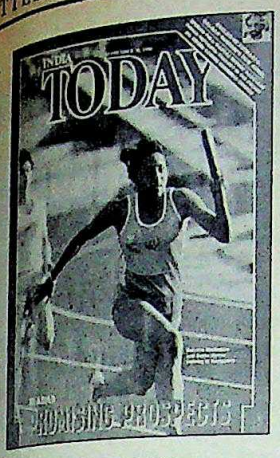
Ch-D LFC 1090

FORCE 10 from LIBERTY *Go for it now!*

LIBERTY

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



BRIGHT FUTURE

Our recent international performances ("Promising Prospects", September 30) are well-known, but we still hope to achieve commemorations at Beijing, especially with the newly introduced event—kabaddi.

Kanpur — R.G. MEHROTRA

UNFAIR ASSESSMENT

Your article ("A Subtle Shift", September 30) is grossly unfair to Jagmohan who landed at Srinagar when all the components of state power structure had been taken over by the terrorists and subversionists. He reasserted the authority of the state. Thus Saxena's task became much easier as he inherited a working machinery as well as processed information. In any case, Jagmohan's time was certainly not the time for buying apples or handicrafts.

Delhi — ATTAR CHAND

MANY RESERVATIONS

Had I chosen my parents carefully at the time of my birth, I would be now climbing on to the band wagon of the new reservation policy ("Dividing to Rule", September 15).

Madras — K.R. RANGASWAMY

■ V.P. Singh's decision to reserve jobs for the backward castes has sowed the seeds of casteism afresh in our society. As a consequence, merit will take a back seat. There will be rising frustration among government employees, resulting in poor performance. And brain drain will increase.

Kota — ASHOK SHARMA

■ Why the hue and cry over merit and efficiency now? Merit is not the monopoly of the upper castes. The press is trying to wage a caste war by calling the OBCs "substandard".

Thanjavur — S. PANDIAN

■ At last the OBCs will get their long overdue reservations in government and public sector jobs. V.P. Singh's decision was not made for political gain. The OBCs voted for him and his party in the last elections, so they were already his vote bank. Secondly, it is incorrect to say that the Mandal report will divide India along caste lines, because ever since Manu divided our society into castes, we have not been able to remove the differences.

Dehradun — AMIT YADAV

■ As long as we take pride in calling ourselves Brahmins and in wearing the sacred thread, the red tilak, or the three horizontal lines of 'vibhuti' on the forehead, we will not be able to change the forward-backward system. Only if we resist the urge to announce our social status will we get somewhere.

Bangalore — POOJA KAUSHIK

■ We must give credit to V.P. Singh for having the political will and moral courage to place the findings of the Mandal Commission before the people, and ensuring its implementation even at the cost of his own political survival.

Pune — SURENDRA MOODLIAR

■ In V.P. Singh, I saw a ray of hope for our country. But I've been greatly disillusioned. To me, he is now just another petty politician.

Bombay — K.A. ANANTHARAM

■ Give free education to all those who can't afford it, and then let everyone fight it out in the job-market in open competition. There should be no job reservation except for the physically handicapped.

Meerut — SUDHANSH ARJUN

■ V.P. Singh once said that he would be a disaster as prime minister. With the implementation of the 'Amangal' Commission report, he has fulfilled his prediction.

New Delhi — RAJNEESH SALHOTRA

■ Your article on reservations ("Apartheid, Indian Style", September 15) was excellent. It was difficult to decide whether the title was better or the story. Reservation, though necessary, becomes wrong when it compromises on merit. The implementation of the Mandal report is superficial and does not take any positive steps towards the real upliftment of the OBCs.

Agra — SANJAY SHUKLA

FAUX PAS

In your opinion poll ("The Government: Up for Grabs", September 15), there appear to be serious lapses. In the table relating to the prime minister's performance, the three columns of figures are not explained at all. Again, the figures for "Will the Government Last?" and the accompanying text are contradictory. The figures seem to have got interchanged.

Hyderabad — MALINI RAJAKUTTY

REASONABLE MEASURES

The Government's role is to create and maintain an infrastructure which facilitates the smooth functioning of the economy ("Road to Reason", September 15). Adding new regulations to an already overregulated country will only expand the inefficient law implementation machinery at the expense of the exchequer. The sale of Ambassador cars and other inefficient vehicles must be banned, as must air-conditioning in cars. There should be judicious elimination of speed breakers, synchronisation of traffic lights and uninterrupted power supply to traffic lights.

New Delhi — NAVEEN SOOD

■ Lavish life-styles and consumerism have unfortunately become synonymous with progress and this will lead us very quickly to the last drop of oil. Thus the road to reason is the road to lower consumption, not just of fuel oils, but of everything—in other words, a road to simpler living.

Mysore — A.S. VOMBATKERE

DANGEROUS GULF

At a time when people all over the world were relieved at the thawing of relations between countries, Hussein's

PUBLISHED BY NUMBER 19; FOR THE FORTNIGHT OCTOBER 1-15, 1990

● EDITORIAL OFFICE LIVING MEDIA INDIA LTD, F-14/15, CONNAUGHT PLACE NEW DELHI 110001. PHONE: 3315601-4, TELEX: 31-61245 INTO IN CABLE: LIVMEDIA, NEW DELHI ● SUBSCRIPTIONS: LIVING MEDIA INDIA LIMITED, POST BOX 706, FARIDABAD-121007, HARYANA ● TRADE NEW DELHI. PHONE: 3313076-8, TELEX: 31-62634 INTO IN ● ADVERTISING OFFICES: 28 A&B JOLLY MAKER CHAMBER II, NARIMAN POINT, BOMBAY-400021. PHONE: 2026152, 2029326, 2029435, 2029436, 2143973 THOM IN. CABLE: LIVMEDIA, BOMBAY ● K-9, CONNAUGHT CIRCUS, NEW DELHI-110001. PHONES: 3325378, 3323576, 3321323 AND 3321273. TELEX: 31-62124 THOM IN. CABLE: LIVMEDIA, NEW DELHI ● FAGUN CHAMBERS, 26 COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF ROAD, MADRAS-600105. PHONE: 477188, 479163. CABLE: LIVMEDIA MADRAS ● 74/1 ST. MARKS ROAD, BANGALORE-560001. PHONE: 213037, 212448; CABLE: LIVMEDIA, BANGALORE ● 12C EVEREST 46C CHOWRINGHEE ROAD, CALCUTTA-700016. PHONE: 225398, 221922, CABLE: LIVINMEDIA, CALCUTTA ● COPYRIGHT 1987 LIVING MEDIA INDIA LTD. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. REPRODUCTION IN ANY MANNER IS PROHIBITED. PUBLISHED BY AROON PURIE FOR LIVING MEDIA INDIA LTD, NEW DELHI AND PRINTED AT THOMSON PRESS INDIA LTD, FARIDABAD HARYANA ● INDIA TODAY DOES NOT TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR RETURNING UNSOLICITED PUBLICATION MATERIAL ●

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

SEE BETWEEN THE LINES

Even after
you've heard about it all
and read about it all – see it all
on India's first newsmagazine on
video cassette – ***NEWSTRACK***
Press the play button and you're
on the ringside seat –
to people, places, events, issues –
incisively covered like on no
other medium ever before.

▶ ONLY ON NEWSTRACK ◀

SPECIAL OFFERS

SINGLE CASSETTE
- Current Issue Rs. 145/- for a single cassette.
- Back Issues Rs. 135/- each.

SUBSCRIPTION
- Annual Rs. 1380/- and a free ***INDIA TODAY YEAR BOOK* 1991*** worth Rs. 275/-.

* This offer is valid upto Dec. 31, 1990. Year Books will be delivered at your given address by the year end or early January 1991.

Mail a DD/Cheque favouring
Living Media India Limited to P.O. Box No.29,
New Delhi – 110 001.

Cheques/ Demand Drafts payable at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras must be MICR only.

For more details contact
Delhi: 3320689. Bombay : 2027867.
Madras : 479163.
Calcutta : 445398 Bangalore : 210834.

Home delivered by courier or Registered Post

India Today Presents
NEWSTRACK
▶The newsmagazine to watch◀

MILESTONES/IT/236

show of muscle ("An Indian Nightmare", September 15) has radically altered the situation. His blatant violation of an independent nation's sovereignty reminds one of Adolf Hitler and his concentration camps. He would do well to remember how the *Fuehrer* met his end.

Madras — SASHI NAIR

■ When world-wide attention was focused on the Gulf, you showed a misplaced sense of priorities by relegating the crisis there to a three-page report when it should have featured as the cover story.

Oman — SUNEET TALPADE

■ If the US is raising such an outcry about the Gulf now, it is not to save Kuwait but to protect its own interests. What it really wants is to see the Arabs fighting each other and dependent on it for everything. That is why the US has called for UN embargoes. How is it that the UN did not empower any country to blockade South Africa for its brutal racist regime or Israel for its occupation of Palestine?

Trivandrum — SHAJIL

THE EXIT LINE

In addition to interviewing employees who quit their jobs ("Exit Revelations", September 15), senior management staff should also be interviewed when retiring from service. Not only would they be able to point out lapses, they could also bring to the notice of the top management ideas which were not considered during their service.

Madras — P. RAMAKRISHNAN

BITTER EXPERIENCES

Do Indian refugees slaving clandestinely in sweat-shops actually benefit from the French way of life ("Seeking a Refuge", September 15)? For most, the golden dream turns out to be an endless nightmare.

Paris — V. QUENNEVILLE

SHORT-SIGHTED POLICY

The reason for our failure to develop indigenous technology ("Intellectual Inertia", September 15) is not a lack of intellectual talent but our short-sighted industrial policy, lack of interaction between technological institutes and industry, and our blind admiration for anything foreign.

New Delhi — PRADEEP K. ROY

INCOMPLETE PICTURE

Having lived in Hyderabad for 25 years, I was very disappointed to read the special supplement ("Crisis of Identity", August 31). Besides slums there are many other spots to be covered in Hyderabad.

Alwar — LAKSHMI SRINATH

■ Your coverage of Hyderabad was very interesting. However, the article was very brief and did not mention many notable things such as the Salarjung Museum, the exodus to the Gulf, and the twin city of Secunderabad. And no other city has as many as five universities and over 100 training establishments, which give it the name of 'The Training Capital of India'.

Bombay — CHOWDARI PRASAD

AGE NO BAR

Reducing the age limit of battalion commanders ("Cadre Crisis", August 31) will not make much difference to their performance. There is enough scientific evidence to prove beyond doubt that the psychological and physiological responses and reflexes of 40- and 45 year-old individuals are not significantly different. Thus it would be better to concentrate on and review training and motivation courses and selection criteria instead.

New Delhi — Lt-General (Retd.) Y.R. SACHDEV

OTHER CAUSES

Industrial pollution has been over-emphasised in your interesting but pessimistic write-up on asthma ("Choking the Children", August 31). The inevitable stress of family life in a metropolitan city where working mothers have little time to pay adequate attention to children and the presence of pollen grains in the atmosphere also play a role in its causation.

Lesotho — Dr M.W. ANNA

A CLARIFICATION

In the feature "Heads Roll", June 1 it was reported that R.K. Anand, joint secretary, Department of Fertilisers, Ministry of Agriculture, had been suspended pending the CBI *investigations in the purchase of jute bags and the import of phosphoric acid from Morocco. It is now upon verification that R.K. Anand was not suspended but was merely posted to another position. The error and embarrassment caused to R.K. Anand are regretted.*

—Editor

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

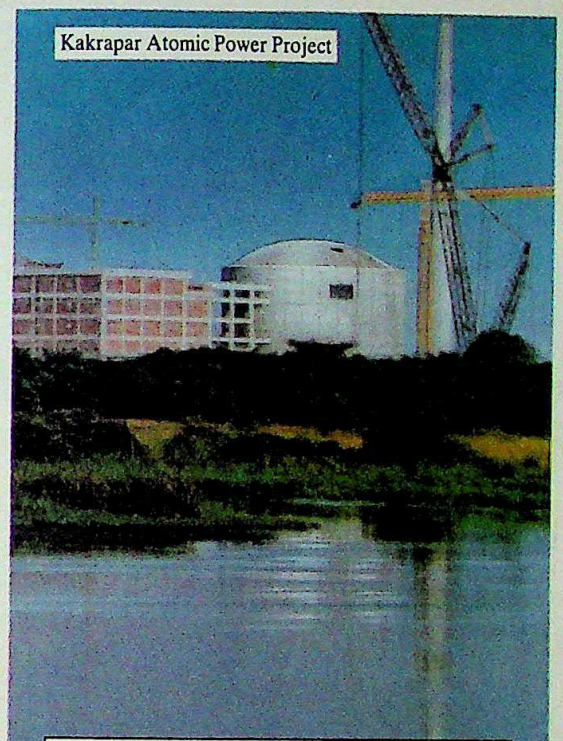
ENSURING PUBLIC SAFETY DURING SITING, CONSTRUCTION AND COMMISSIONING OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS.

The most important consideration in selecting a site for a nuclear power plant is to ensure that the site-plant combination does not pose radiological or any hazards to either the public, plant personnel or the environment, during normal operations or in the unlikely event of an accident. The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) has stipulated a "Code of Practice" on safety in nuclear power plant siting and several safety guidelines for implementation. In evaluating the suitability of a site, it is essential to note a nuclear power plant needs plenty of ***cooling water***, to cool the reactor components and the condenser. Which is why, a site is selected nearer to a river, reservoir or the sea. To economise on fresh water, cooling towers are used, as at Narora-1&2, Kakrapar-1&2 and Rawatbhata-3&4 and 5 to 8. Secondly, a reactor building needs ***a strong foundation***. Elaborate tests are carried out to ascertain ground geology for type of rock, soil and water table. Thirdly, to ***safeguard against earthquakes***, the proposed site, depending on the location, is classified into its respective seismic zone 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5, zone-5 being the most seismic and unsuitable for nuclear plants. About 300 km radius area around the proposed site is studied for its past history of tremors and earthquakes, to assess the severest earthquake that could occur, for which the foundation, building and equipment supports are designed accordingly. This ensures that the plant as built, will retain integrity of structure, piping and components, should an earthquake occur. Engineering designs also take into account external natural mishaps such as floods, including those by upstream dam failures and tropical cyclones.

The other criteria for siting include ***areas of comparatively less populated***, remote from wildlife sanctuaries, as well as from historical and archaeological monuments. A reactor plant should also not be within close proximity of airports, military ammunition depots, mining operations and chemical industries.

Site Selection procedure in India.

To study prospective sites in a given region, the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), Government of India, appoints a Site Selection Committee with experts from the Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Atomic Minerals Division (AMD), the Health and Safety Group and the Reactor Safety Review Group of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) and Nuclear Power Corporation (NPC). The Committee calls for prospective sites and the site data from respective State Governments. The sites are then visited, scanned and ranked. The Committee's recommendations on candidate sites are forwarded to the DAE and the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC). The final selection and announcement is made by the Central Government. The selected sites also receive Governmental "environment clearance" at both the State and Central levels, before the Cabinet gives financial sanction.



Kakrapar Atomic Power Project

Typical examples to show number of units and their total capacity at a given site

Country Location & Plant Name	No. of units × capacity (MWe)	Total Station Capacity (MWe)
1. CANADA – Bruce		
Bruce A 1-4 (O)*	4 × 904	7276
Bruce B 5-8 (O)	4 × 915	
2. U.S.A. – Wintersburg		
Palo Verde 1,2,3, (O)	3 × 1335	4005
3. FRANCE – Gravelines (Nord)		
Gravelines 1-6 (O)	6 × 951	5706
4. W. GERMANY –		
Gundremmingen KRB		
Gundremmingen B & C (O)	2 × 1310	2620
5. USSR – Leningrad		
Leningrad – 1,2,3,4, (O)	4 × 1000	4000
6. KOREA – Kori, Kyong-nam		
Kori 1-4 (O)	1 × 587	
	1 × 650	3137
	2 × 950	
7. JAPAN – Nügata		
Kashiwazaki – Kariwa 1 (O)	1 × 1110	
Kashiwazaki – Kariwa 2,3,4,5 (C)	4 × 1110	8262
Kashiwazaki – Kariwa 6,7 (P)	2 × 1356	
8. INDIA – Rajasthan		
Rawatbhata 1-2 (O)	2 × 220	
3-4 (C)	2 × 235	2910
5-8 (P)	4 × 500	

*O = Operating, C = under construction, P = Planned

The trend is to locate a number of units in a cluster, at a selected site. Although there is an advantage of economy of scale with increase in unit rating, there is a practical limitation that the maximum mega-watt rating of a unit should not exceed 15% of the size of the grid to which it is connected, to ensure grid stability. The highest rated units in India are presently of 500 MWe. The radiation dose at any site should not exceed 100 millirem per member of the public at 1.6 km boundary. All nuclear power plants in India are located in northern, western and southern regions, remote from coal mines.

Construction and Commissioning.

Before any ***construction*** commences at a site, a construction licence from the AERB is necessary. For this, the AERB does an independent and thorough review of the site related information and the design details. To ensure that the proposed plant can be built and safely operated on the site. A continuous quality assurance programme is instituted. From excavation to complete erection of building and equipment to ensure that the contractors follow design specifications to perfect precision. The construction activities last for about six years excluding the commissioning period.

The ***commissioning*** process involves testing and making operational, individually as well as in an integrated manner, various systems such as electrical, service water, heavy water, reactor regulating and protection, steam turbine and generator. And, verifying that these are in accordance with the design intent. To meet the performance criteria, including safe radiation levels in the plant area and radioactive effluents during operation. AERB's stagewise clearance is mandatory, before filling heavy water, loading fuel, making the reactor critical, raising steam, synchronising and reaching levels of 25%, 50%, 75% and 100% of full power. The commissioning period lasts for about two years during which the operation and maintenance staff is further trained, qualified and licensed as required.

NPC. Taking the nation progressively forward.

To achieve a better standard of living today and to conserve our dwindling energy reserves for future generations, we would need an optimal mix of thermal, hydel and nuclear sources for fuelling India's growth needs. That's why NPC has just one major overriding goal. To harness the power of the atom. To help India achieve self-sufficiency in power generation for generations to come.

NPC. Fuelling a powerful future.

Want to know more about nuclear power? Send your queries to:

NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)

Centre No. 1, 16th & 20th Floor,
World Trade Centre, Cuffe Parade,
Bombay-400 005.

Issued for public information by the Directorate of Environment and Public Awareness — Nuclear Power Corporation.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

CONTOUR-NPC-157C/90

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

"RISE, SIR LEGEND"

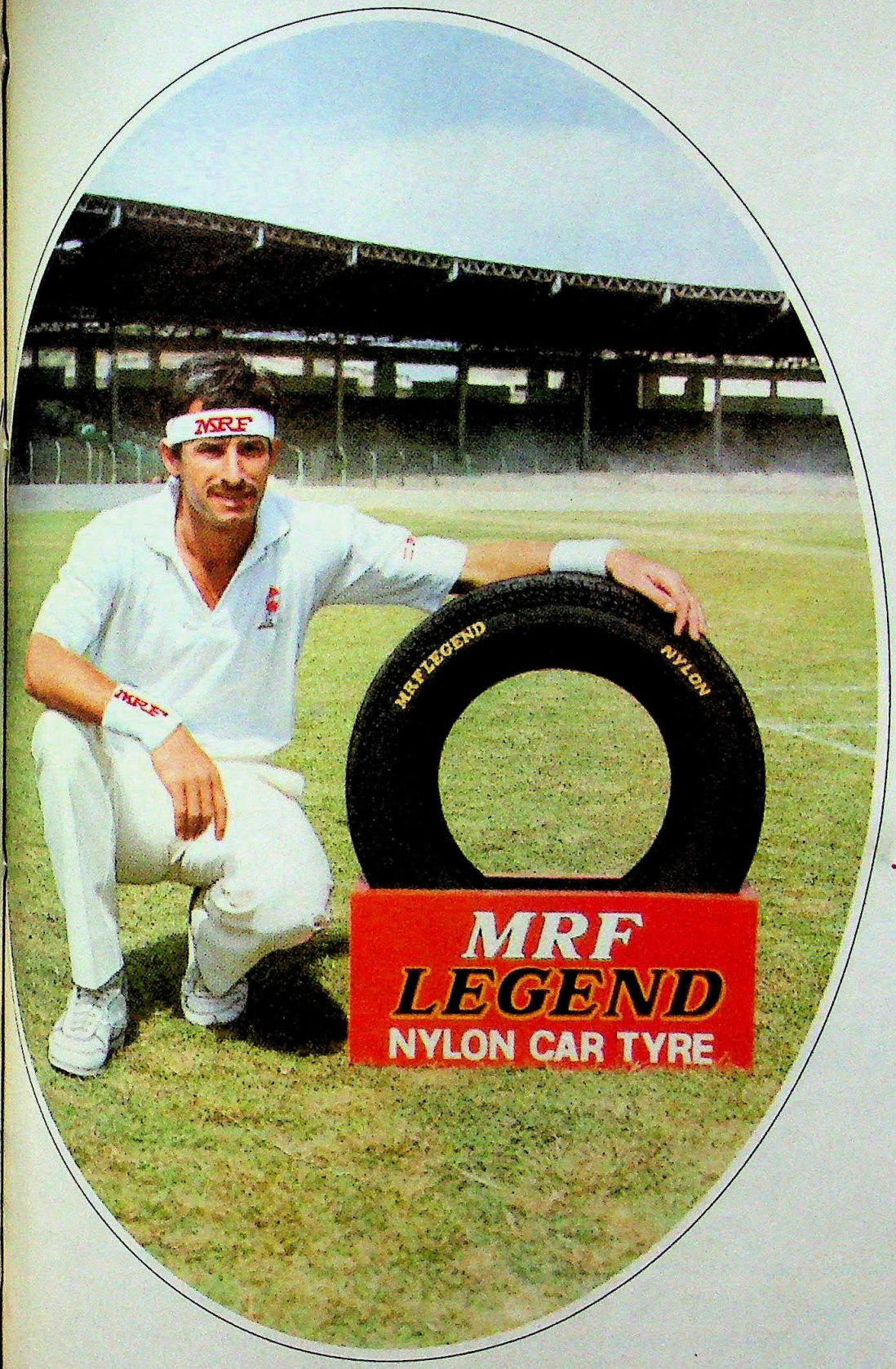
MRF CONGRATULATES SIR RICHARD HADLEE ON HIS KNIGHTHOOD

And on Indian roads, MRF Legend continues to be India's favourite car tyre

Whichever field they're on, legends are recognised for their outstanding performances. On June 16th, 19[illegible] Richard Hadlee became the only cricketer to be knighted while still on the field. Meanwhile, back in India, M[illegible] Legend keeps proving itself on the toughest roads all over the country. Which just goes to show that once y[illegible] have a legend, you have a winner.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

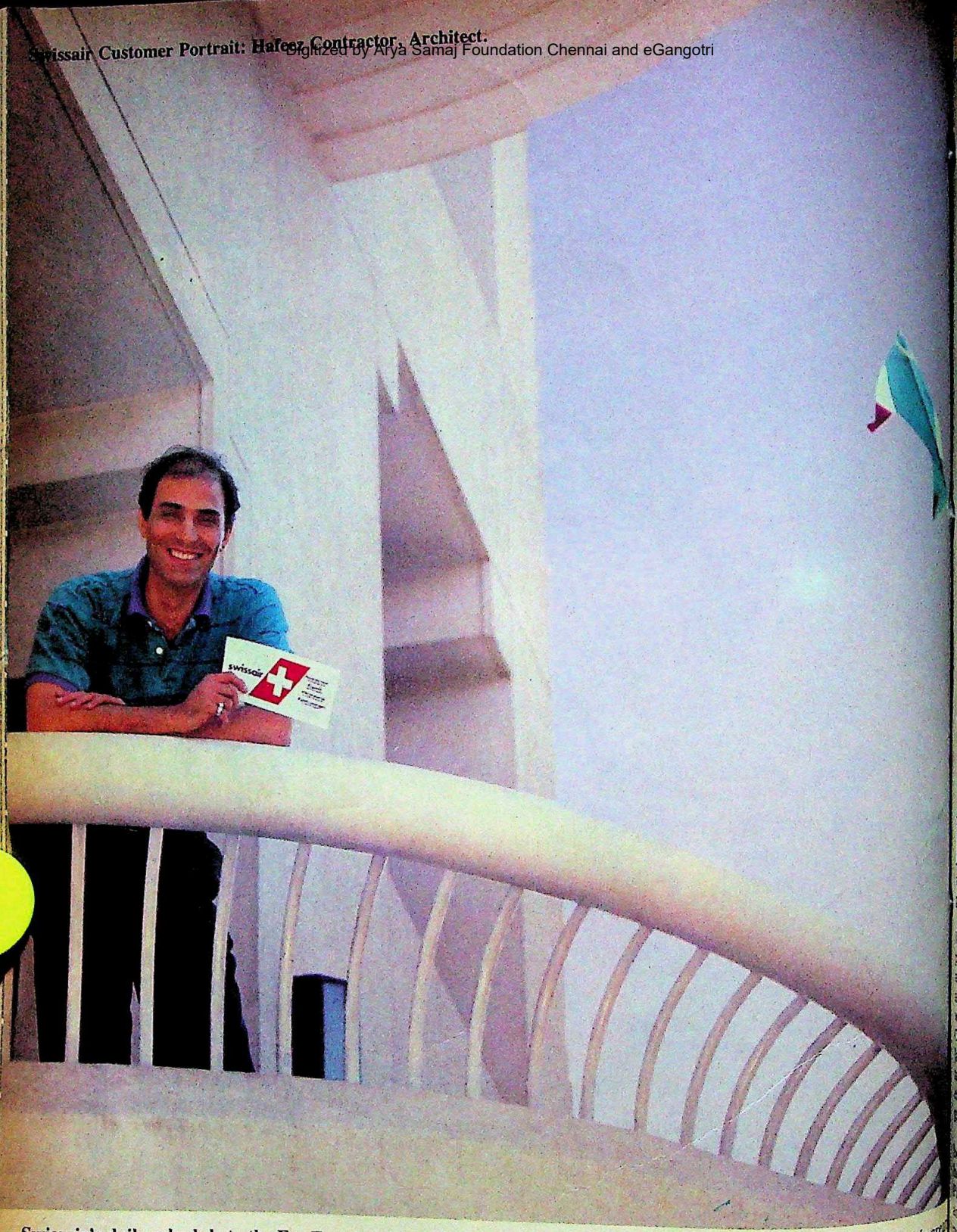
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



LINTAS M MRF FHP 216 2436

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Swissair Customer Portrait: Hafeez Contractor, Architect.
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



Swissair's daily schedule to the Far East is Hafeez Contractor's blueprint for a bon voyage. Hafeez brings to his cre
a rare precision, dependability and indulgence. The very hallmark of Swissair, that is quite naturally his choice of
So whenever Hafeez looks eastwards, Swissair is a daily sight. From Bombay to Singapore, Hong Kong, Seoul, Ja
and Bangkok. Our luxurious First, comfortable Business and attractively priced Economy Class, are as enjoyable
hospitality and service. Now take a tip from Hafeez and discover the best view of the exotic East from Swissair's window

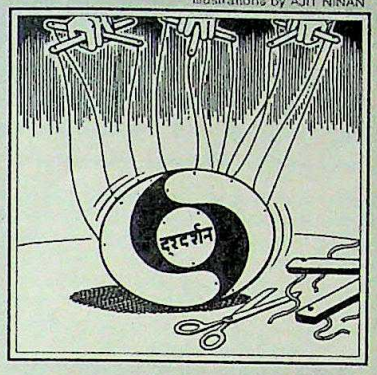
For details call your IATA travel agent or the nearest Swissair office:
AHMEDABAD 449149 • BANGALORE 211983 • BOMBAY 387290 • CALCUTTA 244 • COCHIN 302 • DELHI 3325 11 • HYDERABAD 211144 • KATHMANDU 222452 • MA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

A Flawed Freedom

Illustrations by AJIT NINAN



THE Prasar Bharati Act is a monument to the confusion and doublethink that have settled like a gigantic cobweb over the minds of the nation's politicians. Can't they ever get anything right?

After years of acrimonious debate and campaign promises there had emerged an overwhelming national consensus that Doordarshan and All India Radio (AIR) should be given autonomy. This was a compelling need. For the country could hardly boast of a free press when its powerful broadcast media, reaching far more people than all newspapers and magazines combined, functioned as a propaganda vehicle for the Government in power, smothering all dissent and divergent points of view.

When the National Front Government came to power it held out the very real promise that the broadcast airwaves would finally be freed from the vice-like grip of the Government. In fact, Information and Broadcasting (I&B) Minister P. Upendra even remarked that he would play the unique role of presiding over the liquidation of his own ministry. But sadly, the Prasar Bharati legislation is a testament to the virtual impossibility of fighting the system. In one garb or the other, it always strangulates change.

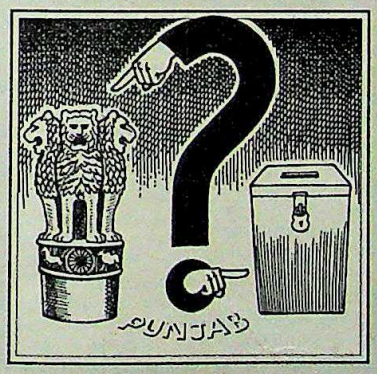
In many ways, the new order amounts to old wine in new bottles. Many, many new bottles. Take, for example, the officials, including the directors-general of AIR and Doordarshan, who will run the broadcasting corporation that's supposed to kick off in April 1991. They will be deputationists from the I&B Ministry, answering, ultimately, to their minister. A far cry from any hopes that were raised of the ministry's liquidation.

In addition, the corporation's work will be subject to review and supervision by mind-boggling layers of bodies with overlapping responsibilities. The Prasar Bharati Board will have part-time members, whole-time members, ex-officio members, representatives from the I&B Ministry and "persons of eminence" to manage its affairs. A broadcasting council, nearly half of which will consist of MPs, will consider complaints against the board. A separate committee of 22 MPs will also oversee the board's functioning and report to Parliament.

This is a surefire prescription for bedlam and influence peddling that will turn the corporation into another prime target for the political spoils system. And there is a final punch: the Central Government can not only demand any information from the corporation but also recommend its supersession.

Control, by any other name, is still, control.

Political Paralysis



PUNJAB continues to burn not only because killers profit from it but also because national leaders and their parties continue to see in its pain opportunistic political benefit.

The Government's decision-making on Punjab is the victim of the same political paralysis that afflicts it in all areas of its functioning—trying to balance the interests of the Left and the BJP while at the same time preventing the Congress(I) and rival camps in the Janata Dal from gaining any advantage. The upshot has always been either the maintenance of the status quo or populist gimmickry masquerading as bold new steps.

And this is precisely what V.P. Singh's recent visit to a border area in Punjab smacked of. His stirring words, that if he were killed there, his body should be cremated on Punjab's soil was high drama and nothing else. It did not assuage hurt feelings, nor bring the Punjab problem one jot nearer to a solution. And his planned *padyatra* in the state draws not the kind of approbation that accompanied his Golden Temple visit, but criticism that it's just one more diversionary stunt.

The Janata Dal talks of holding assembly elections in Punjab not because it may be the right thing to do in order to revive the political process in a state bereft of democracy for so many years, but because it does not want to take any more flak for the deteriorating law and order situation and would rather have an elected government bear the blame.

Congress(I) also hints at supporting elections but then backs off because in its calculations it is better for V.P. Singh to continue to directly take the rap for the crisis and thereby weaken his position. The BJP and Left waffle on the issue in public, but in private persuade Singh not to hold elections on the grounds that in the current atmosphere voters will be coerced by terrorists to favour them. The real reason, of course, is political: the prevailing popular sympathy for extremist political groups will allow no gains for the Left and BJP. And Singh is constrained to go along with the two props of his government.

But in this atmosphere of uncertainty, no long-term policy can emerge because the Central Government, the state bureaucracy and political parties are all plunged into a perpetual state of confusion. V.P. Singh must take a bold and unequivocal stand. Either state clearly that no elections will be held for a specified period and face the consequences, or announce them before the President's Rule comes to an end on November 11 and let the chips fall where they may.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Ennore Foundries Limited

Ennore, Madras 600 057

Speech delivered by Chairman, Shri Mantosh Sondhi, at the Thirtieth Annual General Meeting of Ennore Foundries Limited held on Thursday, September 6, 1990 at Madras.

Shri. Mantosh Sondhi

Ladies & Gentlemen,

I extend to you all a very cordial welcome to this thirtieth Annual General Meeting of your Company.

The Directors' Report and the Audited Accounts for the 15 months period ended March 31, 1990 have been with you for some time. May I, with your permission, take them as read.

PERFORMANCE

The period under review covers a span of 15 months, while the previous financial year was for a period of 12 months. During the period under review, turnover increased to Rs. 77.09 crores, from Rs. 48.92 crores in 1988, recording a growth of 26% on an annualised basis. Profit before tax rose to Rs. 2.9 crores, an increase of 16.6% on the same basis. Return on investment, assets intensity and value added per man also improved despite constraints on essential inputs like power supply and critical raw materials.

With the improvement in performance, your Directors are pleased to recommend a higher Dividend of 25% for the period, equivalent to 20% on an annualised basis.

PROSPECTS FOR 1990-91

The past few years have witnessed a buoyancy in the automobile and tractor industries. The important sector of medium and heavy commercial vehicles which faced a fluctuating demand in the past has also registered encouraging growth. The tractor industry has also done extremely well. The demand for intricate castings is, therefore, promising and your Company is well poised to meet this challenge.

In the foundry industry, captive power supply is important not only from the point of view of higher production, but also to maintain quality standards. Steps being taken by your Company to further augment captive power supply would ensure that your Company is adequately geared to meet the demand for its products.

Though the present oil crisis does cast a shadow on future growth of the economy, I am hopeful that our Government would provide pragmatic and meaningful responses to meet any future eventualities, so as to sustain economic and industrial growth.

THE LAST DECADE

As we enter the nineties, it would be appropriate to review the performance over the past decade and to develop appropriate strategies for the future.

During the last decade, your Company faced many challenges. The advent of new breed of automobiles based on state-of-the-art technology brought with it tremendous changes in design concepts, quality standards and cost objectives, as well as in work culture, ethos and attitudes. These changes have, in turn, put a lot of pressure on the operations of foundries by way of lower lead times, stringent quality parameters and tighter delivery schedules. Strategies were evolved to adjust our design and manufacturing capabilities to meet these challenges and maintain the Company's supremacy in the foundry industry. The high pressure hydraulic moulding system, resin bonded core making facilities, CNC copy milling machines and computer aided facilities for the design of intricate patterns were introduced. Sophisticated test equipment to further upgrade the quality of our products has also been procured and commissioned. The emphasis on technology has enabled your Company to play its due role in indigenisation of the new range of intricate castings contributing to savings in foreign exchange.

THE NINETIES

The decade of the nineties would not clearly be an extension of the past. Given the continuing improvements in technology and rapid changes in global industrial and market economies, there is a need for India to restructure its policies suitably. The Indian industry would be expected to play a major role in meeting the challenges of a global presence.

The markets in the nineties would be more competitive, with continued emphasis on technological upgradation and product diversification. New strategies will have to be evolved and implemented to convert the emerging challenges into opportunities. Your Company, therefore, will have to strive hard to sustain a genuine competitive advantage, an essential pre-requisite for stability and growth. It will need to have a very close look at its operations to identify areas for further improvement. In this context, technology upgradation, vendor development and waste management have considerable relevance. These are the critical areas to which your Company would continue to accord close attention.

As I said the other day in another forum, your Company's continued success in the next decade will depend not merely on how efficient we are, but on how effective we are in harnessing this efficiency for competitive advantage. Focus on these key success areas will enable your Company to continue maintain market leadership and achieve sales, growth and profit higher than the industry average.

TECHNOLOGY UPGRADATION

India is today one of the largest producers of castings, grossing over two million tonnes of iron and steel castings. In the West and in Japan, Foundries have invested in a very high level of automation and in adopting latest techniques in melting, core making and moulding practices to achieve the new set of stringent parameters laid down by the end user industries.

Likewise in India also, we would have to take appropriate measures, if we are to be competitive not only in India but also in the export market. Upgradation of technology has a pivotal role to play. In this context, technology should not be understood in the restrictive connotation of procurement of sophisticated plant alone but should be seen in a much broader perspective of assimilating the skills and ensuring effective utilisation of available assets. Your Company is already moving along these lines.

While the Government, until recently, recognised this aspect and allowed sophisticated foundry plant and equipment to be imported on OGL and with concessional duty, under the Technology Upgradation Scheme, such imports have recently been subjected to the licensing procedures. The Government should reconsider this position, and restore the foundry equipment listed under the Technology Upgradation Scheme under OGL in the interest of making this industry internationally competitive.

Your Company is also making serious efforts to develop export of its products with the help of IVECO.

VENDOR DEVELOPMENT

While the foundry industry is developing its expertise and skills to meet the changed quality requirements, support from the vendor industries has been uneven. Their R&D efforts for improving quality and consistency of supplies are not fully adequate. Vendors to the foundry industry are both in the organised and unorganised sectors. Their response to modify specifications of materials to suit the industry's changing requirement is rather slow and at times lacking. A pragmatic approach and attitudinal change in this regard is necessary. Your Company continues to follow a policy of supporting the vendor firms to the extent feasible in this effort.

Though firm policy measures are yet to be given shape to, there is clearly an appreciation by the Government of the need to upgrade competitiveness in the small and medium scale industries. It would be appropriate if the vendor firms are open to these developments and take advantage of new opportunities for upgradation of technology and of their facilities.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

In the quest for improving profitability, attention to waste management is essential. Generally, significant savings in foundry operations are achieved by avoiding wasteful practices and by recycling of waste wherever feasible. Your Company is, therefore, giving much closer attention to waste reduction, resource recovery and for alternative usage of waste materials. Waste management also helps to reduce the environmental and ecological problems so acute in the foundry industry.

Material cost control has undergone a radical conceptual revolution in recent years. The focus has shifted to role of technology and operator skills in eliminating rejections, rather than building costly buffers to cater to possible rejections in future inspection. The competitiveness of a foundry will be increasingly judged in the future by the end user industries by this criterion.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

Industrial relations for the most part of the year were cordial, although there have been some instances where shared perceptions could have been more helpful in ensuring higher performance.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

May I conclude by conveying our gratitude to LRLIH Limited for their unstinted support with their international marketing and technological resources. I am grateful to our valued customers for their continued patronage. I also take the opportunity to thank the financial institutions and banks for their support. Our thanks are also due to the Central and State Governments and the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board for their help. I am grateful to my colleagues on the Board for the valuable support and guidance I have been receiving from time to time. The members of the Board also join me in conveying their appreciation to all the employees of the Company for their dedicated work under the able guidance of your Managing Director. Lastly, may I say how grateful I am to you all for your presence at this meeting and for your continued support and goodwill.

NOTE: This does not purport to be a record of the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

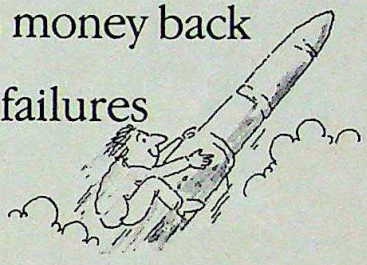
We've covered cricket matches
When the pundits forecast rain

We've paid out bills of hospitals
And helped to ease the strain

Gompa in the Himalayas
Can now protect his yak

If Kondiah loses his boat
He could get his money back

Offshore wells and crop failures
Rocket launchings too



And now a great new venture
That's tailormade for you

गृह लक्ष्मी वित्तम्

GIC GRIH VITTA LTD

Together we shall make your dream come true

General Insurance Corporation of India
Bombay-400 020.

National Insurance Company Limited
Calcutta-700 071

The New India Assurance Company Limited
Bombay-400 023

The Oriental Insurance Company Limited
New Delhi - 110 002

United India Insurance Company Limited
Madras - 600 014

GIC Service Centres:

Bangalore GIC Grih Vitta Limited, Service Centre at: United India Insurance Co. Ltd., Regional Office, Shankaranarayana Bldg., 25, M.G.Road, Bangalore - 560 001. Tel.: 573617/573583. **Bombay** GIC Grih Vitta Limited, Service Centre at: The New India Assurance Co. Ltd., New India Bhawan, 2nd flr, 34/38, Bank Street, Fort, Bombay - 400 023. Tel.: 2861621. **Calcutta** GIC Grih Vitta Limited, Service Centre at: The Oriental Insurance Co. Ltd., 'Everest House', 4th floor, 46C, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Calcutta - 700 071. Tel.: 44-2651/54. Dir. 44-0107. **Hyderabad** GIC Grih Vitta Limited, Service Centre at: United India Insurance Co. Ltd., Regional Office, P.B. No.1020, 3-5-817 & 818 Basheer Bagh, Hyderabad - 500 029. Tel.: 231996, 231894. **Lucknow** GIC Grih Vitta Limited, Service Centre at: The Oriental Insurance Co. Ltd., Regional Office, 43, Hazratganj, Lucknow - 226 001. Tel.: 234886. **Madras** GIC Grih Vitta Limited, Service Centre at: United India Insurance Co. Ltd., Head Office, 24, Whites Road, Madras - 600 014. Tel.: 473993/473007. **New Delhi** GIC Grih Vitta Limited, Service Centre at: The Oriental Insurance Co. Ltd., Regional Office, 86-88, Janpath, New Delhi - 110 001. Tel.: 3329233. **Panaji** GIC Grih Vitta Limited, Service Centre at: The New India Assurance Co. Ltd., Panaji Divisional Office, Velho Bldg., 3rd floor, Rua Conda - De Torres Novas, Panaji - 403 001. Tel.: 3770, 4297.

Multimedia Aquarius/GGVL/2/90

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Criminal Jokes

● Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Mulayam Singh Yadav is losing some old friends due to his nationwide *dharmayuddha* against the BJP. This was evident at the

recent confabulation of chief ministers in New Delhi where he was closeted with the three BJP chief ministers—Shanta Kumar, Sunderlal Patwa and Bhairon Singh Shekhawat.

They asked him, half joking, whether he would arrest them if they marched to Ayodhya in October to start construction of the Ram temple at the disputed Babri Masjid site. Yadav in his crude and brusque style replied that he will not hesitate to do so because the law is equal for everyone.

Shekhawat, who has enjoyed an amiable relationship with Yadav, also responded with inimitable candour: if Yadav steps into his state he will be imprisoned under Section 110 of the CrPC—the law prohibiting free movement of habitual offenders and thugs. Touche! Yadav, who freely admits that he has scores of criminal cases pending against him (he dismisses them as "false" cases) and who has been singed by newspaper reports about his courting known criminals just grinned and adroitly changed the subject.

Spicy Saga

● Indo-Sri Lanka relations have a spicy new dimension. In the eye of the diplomatic tempest are a hundred tonnes of Sri Lankan cloves and 15 tonnes of Indian onion seed.

The cloves that India buys from Sri Lanka every year account for 65 per cent of total exports to India. This year, due to foreign exchange shortage, the imports have been suspended. Quite unconnected is the Sri Lankan demand for onion seed—which India is generally wary of exporting.

Though India hasn't said 'no', for the last month Sri Lankan diplomats have been shunted from one ministry to another. As the buck passes, the goodwill generated by

the 1987 Indo-Sri Lanka accord fizzles.

Telling Tales

● Even as the Centre plots its new initiatives in Punjab, it is stuck with some embarrassing material in its top-secret files that has apparently been leaked to its politi-

cal opponents.

S.S. Mann and his followers, for example, insist that before they change their rigid posture V.P. Singh should houseclean what they say is a rampantly corrupt state administration. Some months ago Singh made vague promises to Mann about implementing the changes. So far he has done nothing.

This could now blow up in his face because the leaked information from the secret files—now with the Department of Personnel directly under the prime minister—reveals that of the six top civil servants running the state, the integrity of three has been questioned. This will make it even more critical for Singh to jettison the old regime in his attempt to make a new beginning in Punjab.

Birth Matters

● During his colourful career, Union Railway Minister George Fernandes has faced pressures from a myriad sources—and refused to be cowed down. Now, however, he is being confronted by pressure from an unusual source—the vice-president's aides—and doesn't quite know what to do.

The story begins in 1985 with the killing of Congress(I) trade union leader Lalit Makan and his wife by Punjab terrorists. Soon after, their daughter Avantika, now 11, was granted a special I Class air-conditioned railway pass allowing her to travel anywhere in the country with a relative and a security guard. The pass was renewed for six years. But

Cartoons by AJIT NINAN

this year Fernandes declined to renew it, arguing it was wrong to grant privileges to the kin of a VIP, while other victims got little relief.

The matter might have rested there except that Avantika is the granddaughter of Vice-President S.D. Sharma. Now Fernandes is being pestered to relent in case of some people being more equal than others.

TAIL PIECE

The Mandal Commission has not only sparked off violence but also spawned a new genre of jokes. One of them doing the rounds is:

Who is the real OBC in Parliament?

Arun Nehru. Because he is O-BE-SE weighing as much as 115 kg.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

n the old re-
npt to make-
in Punjab.

atters

colourful ca-
way Minister
des has faced
n a myriad
refused to be
Now, how-
g confronted
n an unusual
ce-president's
oesn't quite
do.
egins in 1985
ng of Con-
union leader
d his wife by
ts. Soon after,
r Avantika
ranted a spe-
r-conditioned
lowing her to
re in the coun-
lative and a
The pass was
ix years. But

Zodiac for Hans Schmidt

The latest to capture the imagination of the Germans is not automobiles.

At 220 km/h, the Germans are sitting up and noticing the fastest moving fashions to hit the road. Zodiac. Exported to Europe's leading fashion houses. The international look of the season is now parked in India. Slip into gear. And you'll appreciate why Herr Schmidt now chooses to test drive the latest - Zodiac.

The soul of Europe. The spirit of Zodiac.

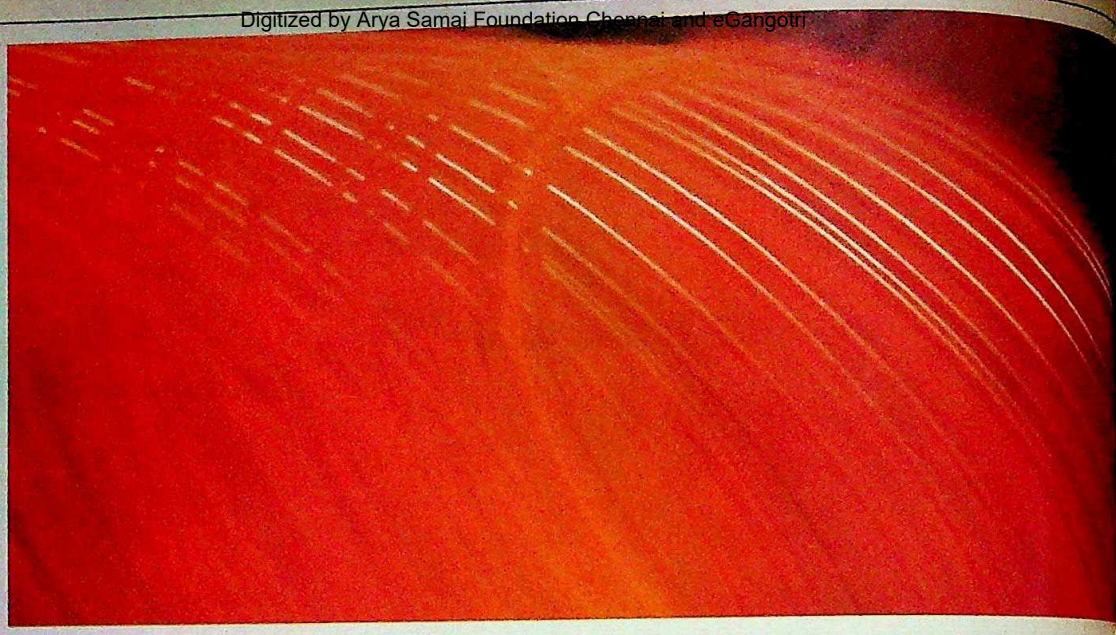
Z O D I A C

SHIRTS TROUSERS TIES SOCKS BELTS WALLETS HANDKERCHIEVES

Only 10% of Zodiac's total production is sold in India.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



HOW TO MAKE STEEL TWIST AND SHOUT

At a speed of 65m/sec. In diameters ranging from 5.5mm to 25mm. In wire rods. In stainless and alloy steels.

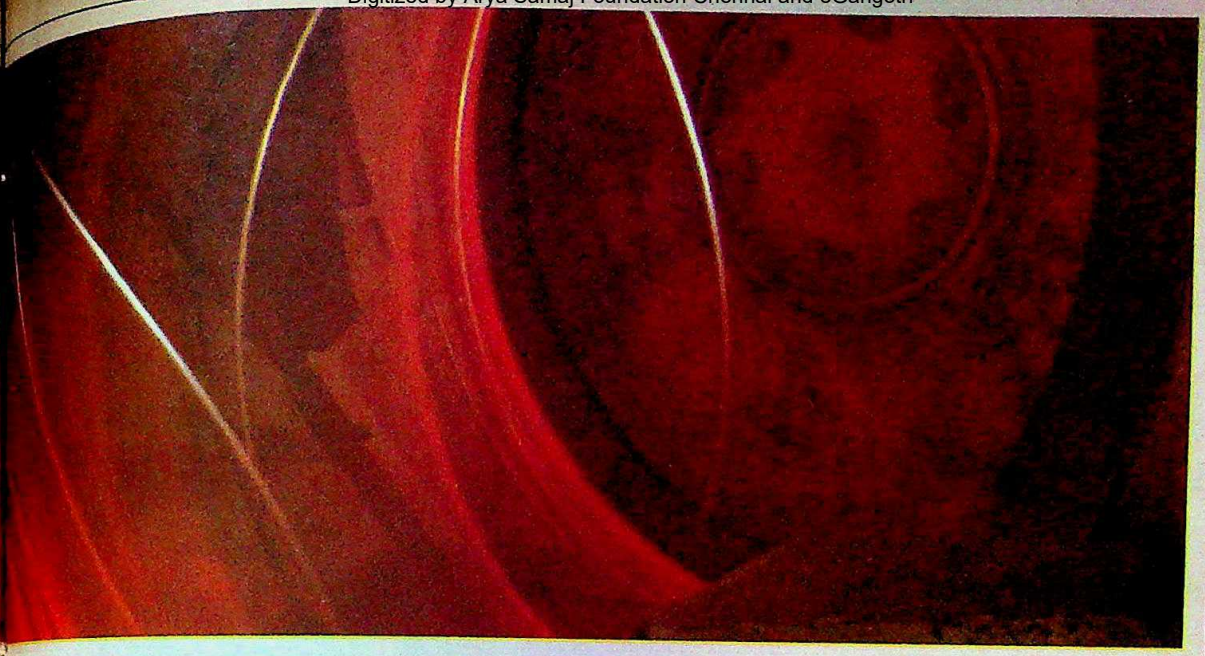
Mukand does it.

Mukand's Speciality Steels Division manufactures steel into 400 different grades. In blooms, billets, bars, rounds and rods. And in the widest range of sizes. To do this, Mukand has India's largest electric arc furnace complex. It produces over 3,00,000 tonnes of speciality steels a year. Mukand is India's largest manufacturer and

CASTINGS ▲ SPECIALITY STEELS ▲ MACHI

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



orter of stainless steels.

Mukand is also India's largest steel ...ry in the private sector and leads in ...rts of alloy steel castings. Mukand ...gns and builds some of India's ...est, most complex cranes and ...hines; and undertakes execution of ...r turnkey engineering projects. ...ing it a multi-product, multi-division, Rs. 500-crore conglomerate.

The commitment of Mukand's people to technology, innovation, research and development has given them a rare insight into steel and its applications. Mukand knows how to make steel, engineer it and use it effectively.

In 50 years, Mukand has truly become a mastermind in steel.

MUKAND LTD.
(Formerly Mukand Iron & Steel Works Ltd.)
L.B.S. Marg, Kurla, Bombay 400 070

UKAND. MASTERMINDS IN STEEL

BUILDING ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

BINATONE CD 2000 SERIES.

Designed to break the sound of silence

Tune into Binatone's latest hi-fi stereo systems.

For sound reproduction that took Europe & Japan by storm.

So, whether it's the soul-stirring melody of the guitar. Or the pulsating beat of the drums. Don't just play it by ear.

See and hear the latest CD 2000 series hi-fi systems at your nearest Binatone dealer.

MODEL	PMPO	PRICE*
CD 2003	180 Watts	Rs. 6160/-
CD 2004	150 Watts	Rs. 5700/-
CD 2005	350 Watts	Rs. 7725/-
CD 2005 Tower	350 Watts	Rs. 9090/-

* Local Taxes and Levies as applicable.

Model shown above is CD 2003

Binatone

SIMPLY YEARS AHEAD

ENGLAND • GERMANY • HONG KONG • JAPAN • KOREA • TAIWAN • NOW IN INDIA

For more information contact nearest Binatone dealer or write to Binatone Electronics Ltd. B-58, Site IV, Sahibabad Industrial Area, Sahibabad-201 010 (U.P.)

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

The Times of India

• *If the* BJP *withdraws support, we will sit in the Opposition.*

■ V.P. Singh talking to newsmen on board an IAF aircraft

• *Government policies are like women's skirts. They go up and down according to changing fashions.*

■ YASHWANT SINHA, Janata Dal leader, in the Rajya Sabha

• *When I first saw the Raja wearing a particular type of cap, I thought it was the cap of Maulana Azad but his recent actions have proved that the cap was Jinnah's.*

■ RAJIV GANDHI at a public meeting in Amethi

• *If Canada has one Quebec, we have 25. If English is banned, united India will break up into linguistic nation-states.*

■ MURASOLI MARAN, minister for urban development, in *Time*

• *No one will commit the blunder of expelling me; I am the founder of the party.*

■ DEVI LAL, former deputy prime minister, in *Probe India*

• *If merit is a criterion in our country, 20 per cent of the Supreme Court judges and 40 per cent of our ministers will lose their jobs.*

■ RAM JETHMALANI, Janata Dal MP, in *The Hindu*

• *For most politicians secularism has become a euphemism for cloaking their allergy to Hinduism.*

■ L.K. ADVANI, BJP president

• *It might lead to an earthquake for a short while but things would be better once the earthquake subsides.*

■ RAM VILAS PASWAN, Union labour and welfare minister, on the anti-reservation stir

• *Is there anything remotely sexual about my appeal?*

■ UMA BHARATI, BJP MP, in *Sunday*

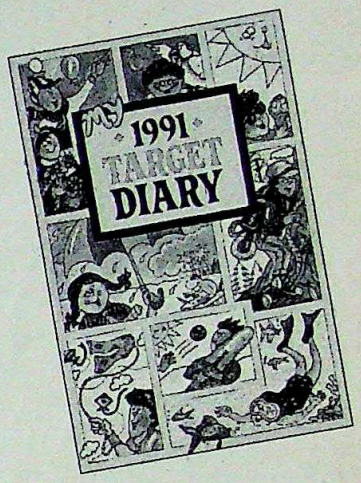
• *It has to be understood, however, that P.T. Usha is not Indian athletics and Indian athletics is not P.T. Usha.*

■ SUNIL ABRAHAM, Ashwini Nachappa's coach, in *Sunday*

• *I tell women who have difficulty having an orgasm, 'Fill your head with fantasies. Think about Burt Reynolds'.*

■ POOJA BEDI in *Sunday Mail*

YEARLONG GIFTS FOR YOUR CHILDREN



The **Target 1991 Diary** has all the things children love. Jokes, amazing facts, things to make n' do, interesting word derivations, games & puzzles to rack their brains, useful information, maps, and of course, pages and pages for them to record what happens to them through the year.

Fill up the coupon below and gift your favourite children a year full of fun.

But hurry! The **Target Diary** has been a sellout for four years running. So book your order now to avoid disappointment.

This sounds like a great gift for kids. Please send _____ copy/copies of the **TARGET 1991 DIARY** @ Rs. 45 per diary at the following address.

My cheque*/DD for Rs. _____ (please add Rs. 5 for outstation,i.e., outside Delhi cheques) in favour of LIVING MEDIA INDIA LTD is enclosed.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

_____

Mail coupon to:
Living Media India Ltd.
P.B. No. 706
Faridabad-121007, HARYANA

TARGET
The Children's Magazine

*Cheques/Drafts payable in Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta & Madras must be MICR only.
Rate and offer valid in India only.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

A BULL'S STORY

■ When two bulls died on government land in a small village near Rajasthan, the administration didn't bat an eyelid. Not until a near riot took place when some locals spread the canard that the bulls had magical powers, and could cure any ailment.

The problem started when some youths dressed up as priests and constructed a samadhi at the spot where the bulls had died, dedicating it to *saand baba* or the bull saint. Soon, thousands of people, hoping for a 'miracle cure', flocked there making massive offerings in cash and kind.

As the youths raked in the moolah and devotional fervour rose to fever pitch, the administration even had to post policemen to control the crowds.

But the luck of the born-again pundits soon ran out. The local newspapers exposed their fraud and the administration was forced to take the bull by its horns. The area was sealed off and the pujaris evicted.

FIRE FEINT

■ For Delhiites the summer may have begun on a blazing note. But for this particular housewife in the capital it even ended on a fiery tone—sort of.

Since she lived on the third floor, she found it difficult to pack away her desert cooler with the onset of the monsoon. However, after racking her brains she finally hit on an ingenious way out: she dialled the Delhi Fire Service and complained that her cooler was up in flames due to a short-circuit.

The fire fighters promptly arrived on the scene ready to douse any inferno. However, to their surprise there

wasn't even a trace of a fire there. Unperturbed by the commotion she had caused, the intrepid lady then told the firemen that she had doused the flames herself. But to prevent any fires in the future, would they please remove the offending machine.

A case of fighting fire with fire?

RECORD CHEQUE

■ The Indian railways may just be on the right track, after all. At least that's what it seems like from a recent experience of Union Railway Minister George Fernandes.

Used to regularly receiving brickbats in his mail, the minister was pleasantly surprised when he found a cheque for Rs 300. In a letter accompanying the cheque, the sender explained that he had travelled ticketless between Kandivili and Grant Road in Bombay, soon after Partition. That was when he was too poverty-stricken to pay his fare.

Having wallowed in guilt for over 40 years, he was now finally in a position to repay the Government. The enclosed cheque was to cover not only the cost of the ticket, taking into account the hike in rail fares, but also the interest due on the amount with adjustment for inflation.

Clearly, a way of ensuring a ticket to a guiltless future.

RESERVATION RITES

■ Almost the entire nation has been gripped by the anti-Mandal mania. And the students of Benares Hindu University are no exception. What was innovative, if in somewhat poor taste, was their way of protesting: they consigned an effigy of Prime Minister V.P. Singh to the funeral pyre.

Marching down the ghats of Benares with the effigy on their shoulders they first formally registered the details of the death—name of the deceased: V.P. Singh; cause of death: reservations; death reported by: Mulayam Singh Yadav.

After that, the 'corpse' was duly purified with a dip in the holy Ganges and finally consigned to the flames amidst the chanting of Vedic *shlokas*.

The agitating students said they were sending up the effigy in flames because that was precisely what had been done to their dreams.

BOVINE BOAT

■ It seems that man's best friend is no longer the dog but the buffalo. Particularly if you were to go by the experience of an Adivasi family from Palia village in Gujarat.

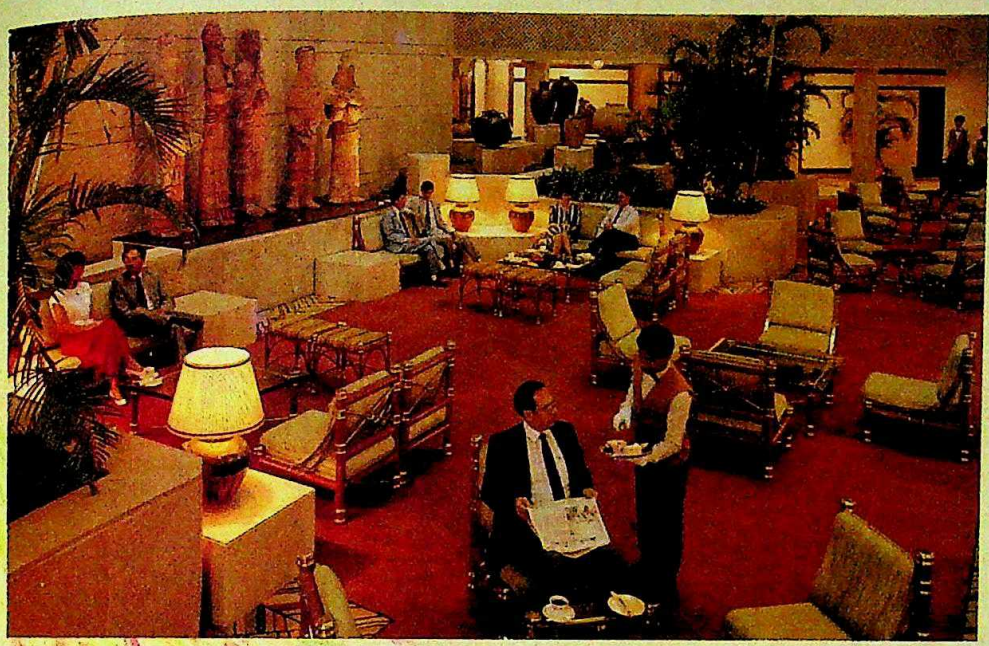
When floods broke out in the village this family was literally swept off its feet. Caught in a sink or swim situation as the water rose threateningly, they prepared to meet their maker.

That was when they received help from an unexpected quarter—their family *doodhwallah*, the buffalo. The scene was straight out of a slapstick movie: the entire family piggybacking on the buffalo, with some hanging on to its tail and others clinging to the iron ring around its neck.

When last heard the family was desperately trying to convince the local rescue department to utilise the services of their buffalo on a permanent basis.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



COME HOME TO
WARM INVITING

Find yourself warmly received.
A cup of your favourite tea while you lounge in the lobby.
A soft, white bathrobe. And personal toiletry.
Gourmet cuisine to choose from.
A good book to read in the Business Centre. And, that liqueur so thoughtfully tucked away in the mini-bar...
Little things like these make you feel you've come home.

Taj Bengal
Calcutta India

A whole new experience

THE TAJ GROUP OF HOTELS

TSA-C/TB/2890

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar. Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Body Language.
For Swanky Homes.

From the company that has always stood for ele
Rich, velvet fabrics so enticing, it's a shame you
can't wear them.
Made on hi-tech Belgian looms.
With anti-static treatment to reject dust.

Andhra Pradesh • Boolchand & Sons, Visakhapatnam. **Bangalore** • Innovations, Commercial Street • Kwality
Furnishings, Kemp's Corner • FAB INN, Haji Ali • Chaudhuri Brothers & Co., Dadar • 'A to Z', Dadar T.T. • D
Calcutta • Poddar Bros., Chowringhee Centre • Times Furnishing, Park Street. **Delhi** • Jagdish Store, Karol Bagh
Punjab • K. Dhir Enterprises, Kartarpur. **Rajasthan** • Raymond's Retail Shop, Jaipur.

d for ele
ame you
t.

, Fancy, Jacquard. In 137.16 cm width and a
e of colours to suit every taste.
orget Laura Ashley. And say goodbye to Schumacher.
nk has never been so chic.

Raymond's

FURNISHING
FABRICS

• Kwality
r T.T. • D
arol Bagh

Road. **Bombay** • Anokhee, Nariman Point • Pride International, Churchgate • Polite, Hughes Road • Bharat
, Linking Road • Novelty Furnishings, Linking Road • One Up, Ghatkopar (E) • Anubhai Amarshi & Bros., Thane.
s Carpet Co., Connaught Place. **Madras** • India Furnishing, Mount Road. **Pune** • Shrihans Corpn.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

NATIONAL PARTIES

Politics of Nihilism

by INDERJIT BADHWAR and PRABHU CHAWLA

HAD Mahatma Gandhi been alive he would probably have undertaken a death-fast to shame the nation's politicians back into their senses. For the political power struggle that has now begun to spread across the land, and the forces and symbols with which the antagonists are fuelling it, are making an insane mockery of the Mahatma's struggle to instill a sense of dignity and social purpose in his countrymen. Once again, even as the fortnight came to a close, the nation found itself up to its neck in the quicksand of caste and religion, and sinking slowly.

The sudden, dramatic, and militant revival of the Ram Janmabhoomi issue was the most immediate manifestation of the new dimensions of the national crisis that began snowballing after Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh announced the implementation of the recommendations of the Mandal Commission report. The initial, and continuing, fallout of that hasty and ill-conceived step was an explosion of nation-wide student protests, intercaste tension that paralysed several states and disrupted the educational system. For the first time in several years, the Indian Army had to be called out in several states to restore peace and order.

> **The flames are threatening to rekindle the communal divide and also to ignite a debilitating struggle between the BJP and the Janata Dal.**

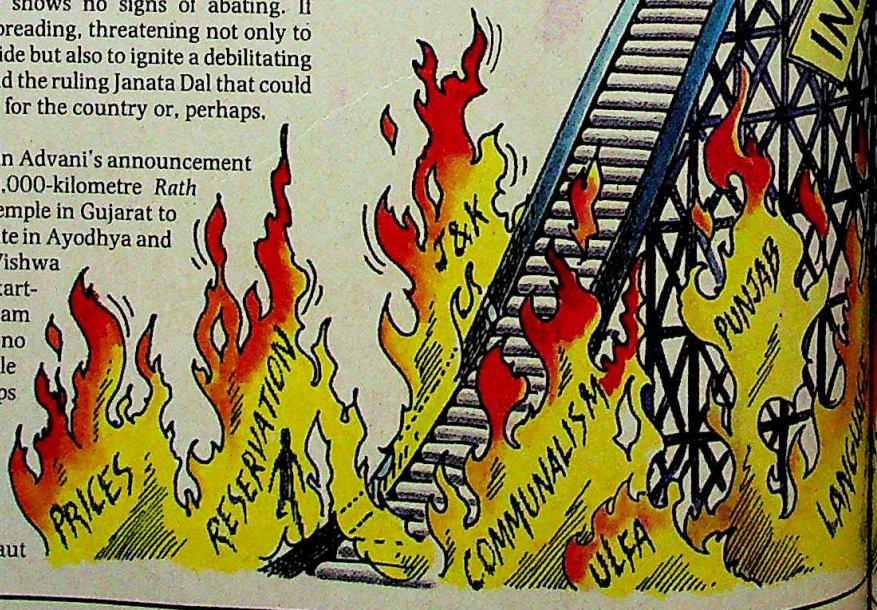
And the stir certainly shows no signs of abating. If anything, the flames are spreading, threatening not only to rekindle the communal divide but also to ignite a debilitating struggle between the BJP and the ruling Janata Dal that could spell continuing instability for the country or, perhaps, a mid-term poll.

BJP President Lal Krishan Advani's announcement that he would lead a 10,000-kilometre *Rath Yatra* from the Somnath Temple in Gujarat to the disputed Babri Masjid site in Ayodhya and determinedly support the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) in starting construction of the Ram temple on October 30, no matter what the courts rule on the dispute, was perhaps the most dramatic assertion of the party's determination to revive the Hindu card in preparation for a mid-term poll.

The Ram Juggernaut trundling across state after state, picking up hundreds of thousands of followers over two months, and rolling into Ayodhya could well become the catalyst not only for a vertical religious polarisation but also for communal violence. But the BJP is adamant that uniting Hindus in the name of Ram rather than accepting their division in the name of Mandal is the truer path to political salvation.

The party's uncompromising stand is a direct retaliation against V.P. Singh's Mandal card that the BJP perceived to be a calculated hammer-blow to its mid-riff. And it did indeed knock the wind out of the BJP. From the protests that have been spreading menacingly across the land like a prairie fire and the caste jealousies and suspicions that have exploded, there seems little doubt that Singh and his party have hyphenated Indian society. The institutionalisation of caste divisions of such an unparalleled magnitude hit the BJP where it hurt the most—in its efforts to unite Hindus as a political force under its own banner.

Sadly, the prime minister and his men have been pandering to caste and re-



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

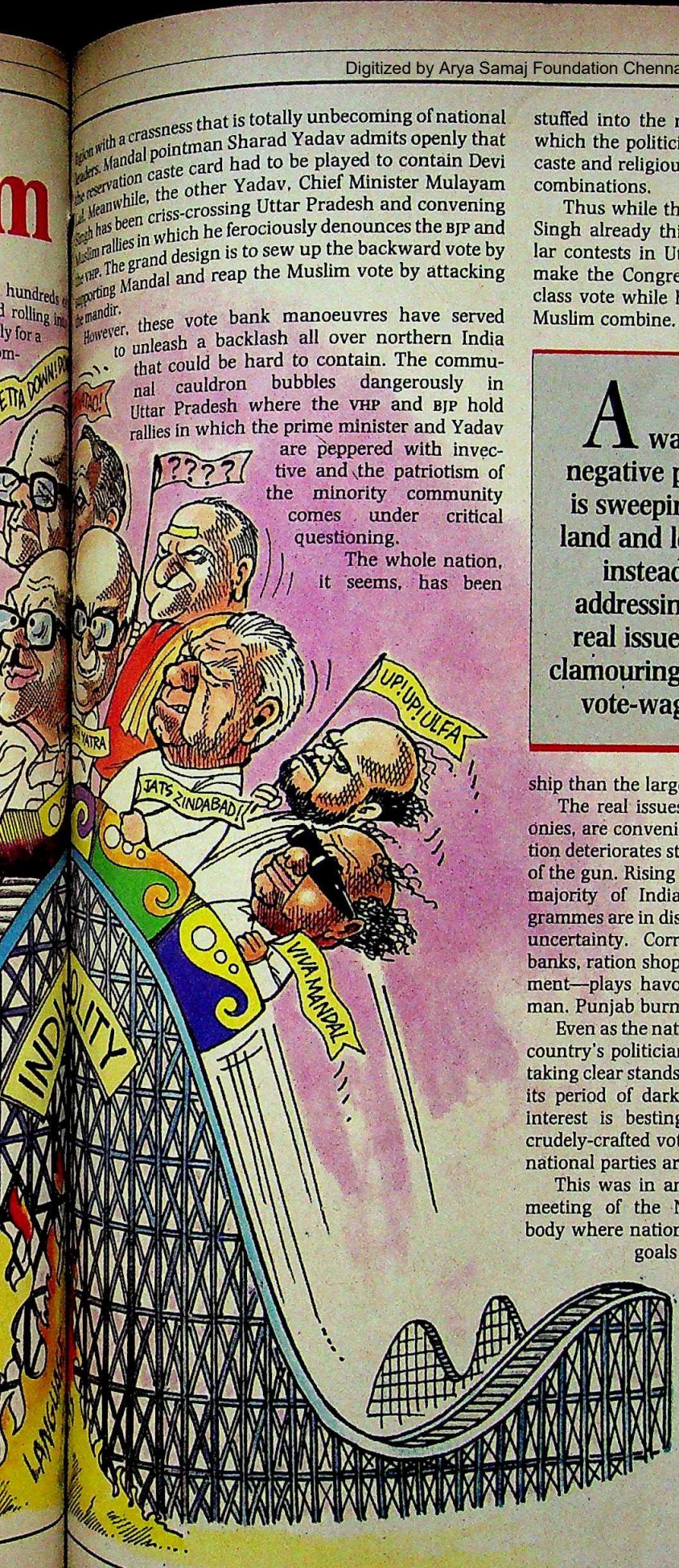


Illustration by AJIT NINAN and ANIL SHARMA

Region with a crassness that is totally unbecoming of national leaders. Mandal pointman Sharad Yadav admits openly that the reservation caste card had to be played to contain Devi Lal. Meanwhile, the other Yadav, Chief Minister Mulayam Singh has been criss-crossing Uttar Pradesh and convening Muslim rallies in which he ferociously denounces the BJP and the VHP. The grand design is to sew up the backward vote by supporting Mandal and reap the Muslim vote by attacking the mandir.

However, these vote bank manoeuvres have served to unleash a backlash all over northern India that could be hard to contain. The communal cauldron bubbles dangerously in Uttar Pradesh where the VHP and BJP hold rallies in which the prime minister and Yadav are peppered with invective and the patriotism of the minority community comes under critical questioning.

The whole nation, it seems, has been stuffed into the memory banks of a pocket calculator on which the politicians punch equations to figure out which caste and religious alignments will prove to be the winning combinations.

Thus while the BJP plays out its Hindu game plan, V.P. Singh already thinks in terms of future electoral triangular contests in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar in which he will make the Congress(I) and BJP fight for the urban middle class vote while he reaps the whirlwind of the backward-Muslim combine.

A wave of negative politics is sweeping the land and leaders, instead of addressing the real issues, are clamouring aboard vote-wagons.

But this country and its problems are more than just manipulable vote banks. The nation is more than just Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. And its people when roused by a wave can upset the best of calculations.

But what a price it is having to pay. Right now the wave sweeping this land is that of negative politics in which the leaders at the helm of affairs seem to have lost sight of the national perspective and emerged as petty manipulators more interested in one-upmanship than the larger common good.

The real issues facing the nation, its fundamental agonies, are conveniently forgotten. The law and order situation deteriorates steadily all over with the inexorable march of the gun. Rising prices are crippling the livelihoods of the majority of Indians. Health and family planning programmes are in disarray. The industrial policy languishes in uncertainty. Corruption at the grassroots level—rural banks, ration shops, housing societies, government recruitment—plays havoc with the basic needs of the common man. Punjab burns. Kashmir burns.

Even as the nation is torn asunder by these problems, the country's politicians, instead of addressing these issues, or taking clear stands on them and guiding the nation through its period of darkness are busy in blindfolding it. Their interest is besting their rivals and clamouring aboard crudely-crafted vote-wagons. In this atmosphere the major national parties are losing their relevance.

This was in ample evidence at the recently-concluded meeting of the National Integration Council, the one body where national leaders convene to consider common goals in the interest of the integrity of the country. Every so-called leader—Rajiv Gandhi, Chandra Shekhar, Jyoti Basu, N.T. Rama Rao—used this forum not to deal collectively and rationally with the real pains of the country but to score embarrassing points against one another, and settle scores through small-minded gestures and public relations gimmicks.

A period of darkness and destructive confrontation has besieged the land in which its leaders, instead of finding solutions, have become the creators of problems.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

MANDAL COMMISSION

A Tragic Price

The storm created by the Mandal Commission recommendations poses a serious threat to V.P. Singh's political survival.

THE crisis, the likes of which has rarely engulfed the nation with such overwhelming intensity and rage, was of his own making and, as it mounted with increasing ferocity, Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh found himself facing it almost alone. The very people who had pushed him into taking the controversial decision were nowhere to be seen.

Having taken the big bite from the forbidden apple of the Mandal Commission, Singh found himself unable to swallow it or to spit it out.

Even as he found himself paralysed in grappling with the consequences of the hasty decision he had made, his government watched in stunned horror

RAVEENDRAN/AFP

Gurukul Kangri University Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

elf unable to
t.
self paralysed
nsequences of
ad made, his
unned horror

city after city exploded in violent anti-Mandal demonstrations and had to be put under curfew. That a severe dyspepsia had afflicted the Government was evident from the fact that while Singh was absorbing the flak, Home Minister Mufti Mohammed Sayeed who is responsible for law and order was virtually in hiding.

The capital was abuzz with rumours of Singh's resignation. And they were not entirely without basis. Political enemies within and outside his own party had begun to scheme his overthrow. Opposition leader Rajiv Gandhi called for Singh's resignation for his "obstinacy and obduracy," and passed the word through emissaries that his party would be willing to support a government headed by any other person.

SENIOR Janata Dal leader Chandra Shekhar met President R. Venkataraman on the evening of September 24, shortly after Singh had himself paid a visit to Rashtrapati Bhawan. Using the sequence of events to their benefit, Chandra Shekhar's supporters spread the word that Singh was on his way out.

Adding fuel to the crisis, Janata Dal Chief Ministers Biju Patnaik, Chimanbhai Patel and Mulayam Singh Yadav arrived suddenly in New Delhi. And in a significant development, several party members including ministers Maneka Gandhi and Jagdeep Dhankar, and prominent MPs like Yashwant Sinha called for a meeting of the National Front Parliamentary Board. Over a period of less than 24 hours, more than a dozen meetings, including three of the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs were held. The key players were Chandra Shekhar, Devi Lal and dethroned Haryana chief minister Om Prakash Chautala.

While the prime minister's foes were plotting against him in secret conclaves held over two days in a government-owned five-star hotel, his supporters like Arun Nehru were urging him to see

Goswami in flames: sparking off a chain reaction

RAJEEV GOSWAMI

Act of Desperation

HE was a faceless youth. But one act thrust him to national fame. As yellow tongues of fire licked his body, cameras clicked. The next morning, the picture of the youth attempting immolation was on the front page of all newspapers. Name: Rajeev Goswami. Age: 20.

Two days later, the crossing outside the Safdarjang Hospital—where he struggled for life—was renamed Qurbani Chowk (sacrifice square) and the road signs repainted Rajeev Goswami Marg. The anti-Mandal Commission student movement in the capital had finally found a rallying point.

What made this average third-year arts student attempt to immolate himself? Dr. B.K. Bhattacharya, the principal of Deshbandhu College—where Rajeev studied, believes it was because the press and the intelligentsia were decrying the Mandal report. His friends say the only option he had after V.P. Singh's decision to implement the Mandal report was suicide.

The only son of a middle class Punjabi Brahmin family, Rajeev has six sisters. His father, Madan Lal, is a clerk with the Postal Department. In college, Rajeev was on the Delhi University Students' Union (DUSU) Central Council, and had planned to stand for president or joint-secretary, DUSU. He had no concrete career plans as yet. His father wanted him to take up a government job. But he had told a friend he wanted to join politics—so it was logical for him to participate in the agitation against the Mandal Commission.

The Goswami tragedy provided the agitation a rallying point.

Tempers were running high after a nine-day hunger strike, which the students believed hadn't received adequate attention. Frustrated, Rajeev and his friends came up with the idea of self-immolation. Yet Rajeev retained an element of sanity. The night before, he called his mother and reassured her: *"Hum sirf tamasha karne ja rahe hai"* (we are staging a drama).

But in an atmosphere charged with emotion, the initial plan of a mock self-immolation went awry. Having previously come with only his legs doused in kerosene, Rajeev then poured kerosene all over his body. And when he lit that match stick, he was at the back of the crowd and his friends, detailed to douse the fire, were not around.

—NONITA KALRA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

 Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

reason and resist factional pulls. But Singh dug in his heels. In an emotional speech on national television, he reiterated his resolve to implement the Mandal Commission recommendations. "I wish to make it clear," he said, "that should a situation arise in which I have to choose between a cause that I believe in so intensely, and my chair I will not hesitate for an instant to choose the former."

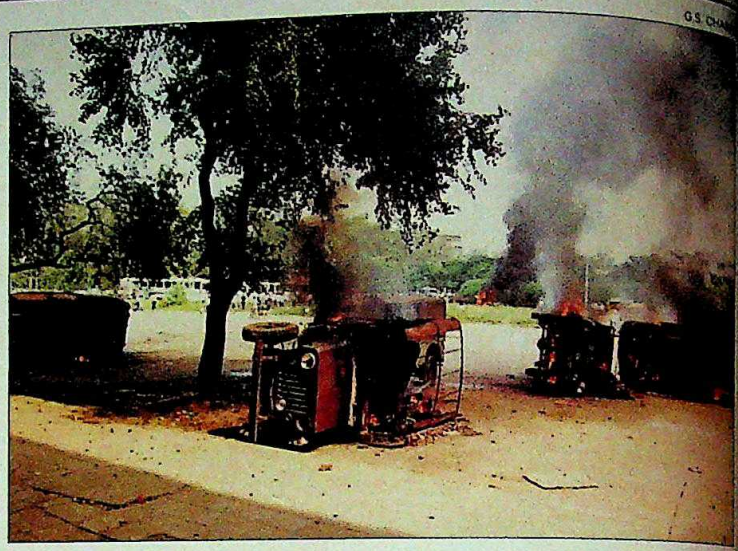
Yet, despite V.P. Singh's bravado, it was obvious that the virulence of the agitation, throwing together as it did some of his most ardent supporters—large sections of the urban middle class, students, professionals, lawyers and the press—had taken him by utter surprise. When the agitation began a month ago, it was in the form of scattered protests. Buses and trains were burnt. Traffic was blocked. There were police firings and lathi charges. And the inevitable deaths. Still, political pundits insisted the agitation would die down. The agitationists belonged to the middle class and could never keep up the momentum, so the argument went.

And indeed, for a time the agitation did subside. Only to burst with renewed force into the consciousness of a horrified nation on September 19. That day, Rajeev Goswami, a Delhi University student, set himself on fire, sustaining 50 per cent burns *(see box)*. If the anti-Mandal agitation was looking for a novel form of protest, Goswami provided it. In quick succession, youths in a series of cities—Delhi, Hissar, Sirsa, Ambala, Lucknow, Gwalior, Kota, Ghaziabad—set themselves on fire.

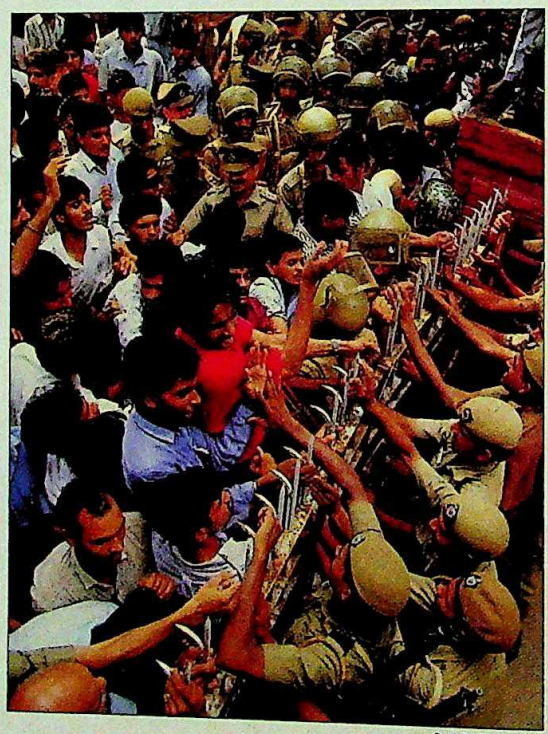
Enraged by the reports of self-immolation attempts and police brutality, the anti-Mandal agitation flared up again, spreading to more cities, intensifying in violence.

In the capital, agitating students blocked one of the most important traffic intersections, naming it Qurbani Chowk and turning it into a mini-Tiananmen Square. For days, they disrupted traffic until in a predawn swoop, a huge posse of policemen cleared the square and arrested about a thousand students.

Next day, the students, in an attempt to recapture the square, engaged the police in pitched battles. When a lathi charge and tear gas failed to disperse the students, the police opened fire. Two were killed.



G.S. CHA



SHARAD SAXENA

Anti-reservation riots in Chandigarh (top); students storm BJP office in Delhi

IN Chandigarh, agitators burnt hundreds of government vehicles, buildings and offices. Finally the army had to be called out—the first time since Operation Bluestar in 1984. The army was also mobilised in about a dozen other towns, including Ambala and Sirsa, Kurukshetra and Rohtak. In unambiguous terms, the anti-reservationists had signalled to V.P. Singh and the National Front Government that they meant serious business.

If V.P. Singh was obstinate in sticking to his position, it was because of his reckoning that the anti-reservationists were hopelessly outnumbered by pro-reservationists and that if it came to the crunch, the backward castes could be brought on to the streets.

There was at least some basis for his calculations. For most of south India, barring a few protests in Andhra Pradesh, the Mandal Commission was a non-issue. Even in Bihar, which has witnessed some of the most violent anti-Mandal Commission riots, the pro-reservationists later hit the streets in full force, overwhelming the anti-reservationists. In Gujarat, the agitation remained low-key. And in Punjab, barring Chandigarh and a few towns, the agitation evoked little response.

If the situation in these states was anything to go by, it appeared that V.P. Singh's political gamble would pay off. But like Indira Gandhi who underestimated the determination of the agitating students in 1974 and of the students who led the Assam movement, V.P. Singh seemed to have made a serious miscalculation.

For the students at the forefront of the anti-Mandal Commission agitation were in no mood for a compromise. On the eve of their exit from academia, what mattered most to them was a secure job. And that is what Mandal threatened to take

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

It takes so little energy to turn night into day!

Surya HPSV lamps.
Ideal for lighting highways, airports, hotels, car parks, roundabouts, factories, railway yards, docks and residential complexes. Available in 70, 150, 250 & 400 watts with matching luminaires.

- Advanced turbo-molecular pump ensures long life, quicker ignition and low voltage start.
- Arc tube sealed with ceramic plug used to avoid thermal cracks and ensure shock-proofing.
- The arc tube does not let excess amalgam to enter the arc stream, so the lamp does not blink and is vibration-proof.
- Water-based coating, hence glare-free uniform light.
- 10 times more energy-efficient and 14 times longer life-span than ordinary incandescent bulbs.
- 2 times more energy-efficient and 3 times longer life-span than fluorescent lamps and mercury vapour lamps.

Prakash Tubes Ltd.
(Lighting Division)
Padma Tower-I, Rajendra Place,
New Delhi-110 008.
Ph: 5710093, 5710564, 5710592.

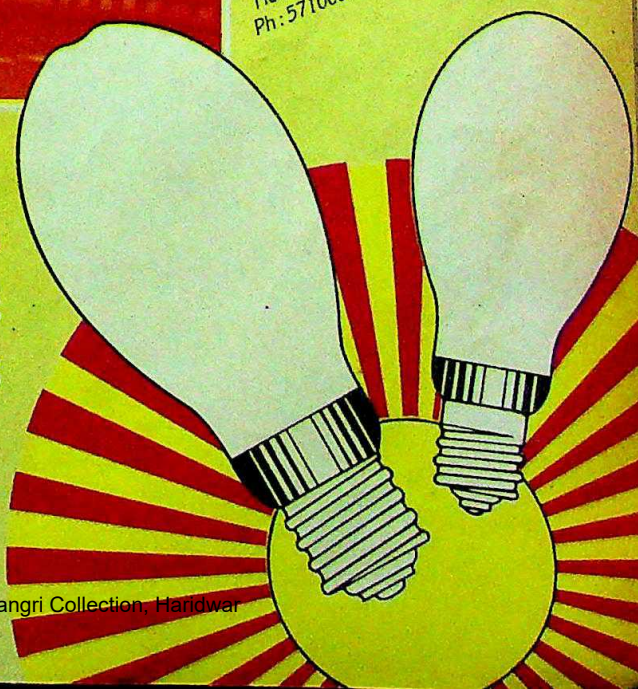
Also available on DGS&D Rate Contract.

SURYA

High Pressure Sodium Vapour Lamps

SAVE LIGHT SAVE ENERGY

International quality lamps in technical collaboration with OSRAM-GEC Ltd., U.K.



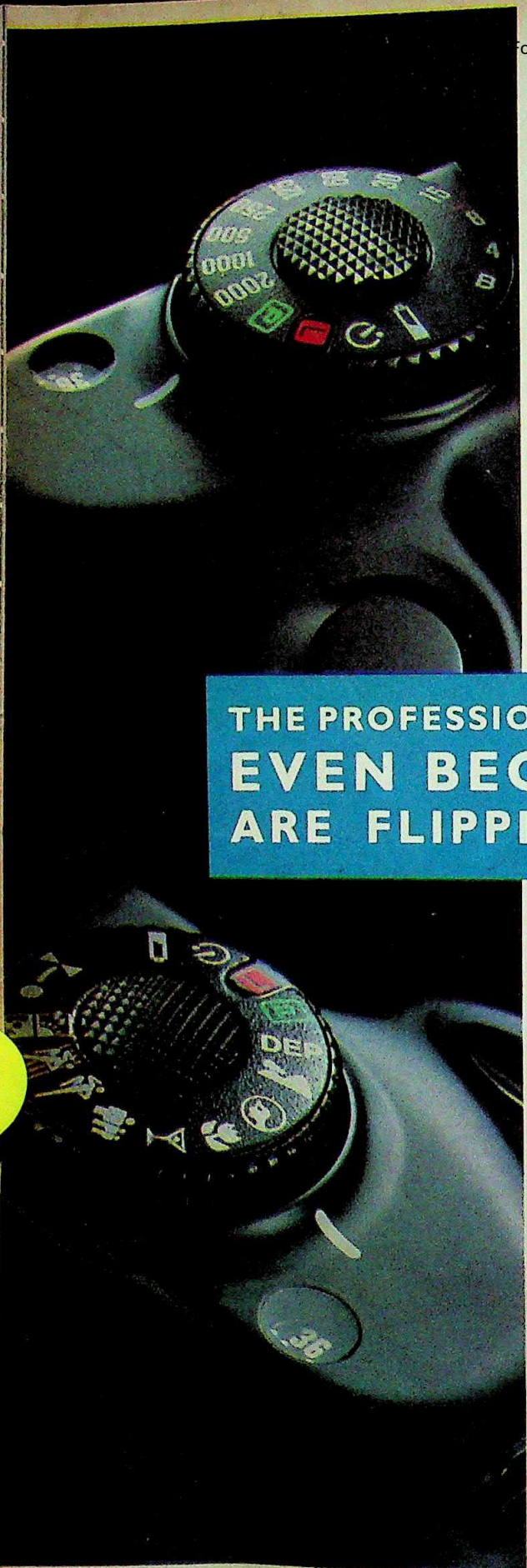
CC-0. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

AJAX/OCM/SRW/2/90

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri
Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



With the new EOS 700QD, Canon techno
hasn't just created another great addition to the aw
winning EOS range. It's practically created two gr
cameras in one. The real beauty of this ingen
new EOS lies in a unique Reversible Shutter Dial
lets you flip from manual shutter speeds to sim
Programmed Image Control in seconds flat. The
result are pictures and effects that will excite every
from a first-time SLR user to a serious professional.
And since the Canon EOS 700QD is fully compati
with any of Canon's
Lenses — from super wi
angle fish-eye to ex
long telephoto, we really do mean serious.
Combining world-beating Canon standard features
an auto-retractable flash and EOS evaluative mete
in a sleek, but sturdy body, the new EOS 700Q
a camera nobody can miss with. For a free co
brochure, complete and return the coupon today.

THE PROFESSIONAL CAMERA EVEN BEGINNERS ARE FLIPPING OVER

To: CANON HONGKONG TRADING CO. LTD.
Room 1101 Peninsula Centre, 67 Mody Road, Tsimshatsui East, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Tel No.: _____

Canon
EOS 700 QD

Service Agents: Mahatta & Co. P.O. Box 492, 59 M Block, Con Circus, New Delhi — 1 Phone: 3530008 K. Prabhakar 195, D.N. Road, 2nd Floor, Fort, Bombay 400 001. Phone: 263827 Deen Dayal Camera Repairers Municipal Market Shop No. B 1/3 Chikkadpally, Hyderabad — 27

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

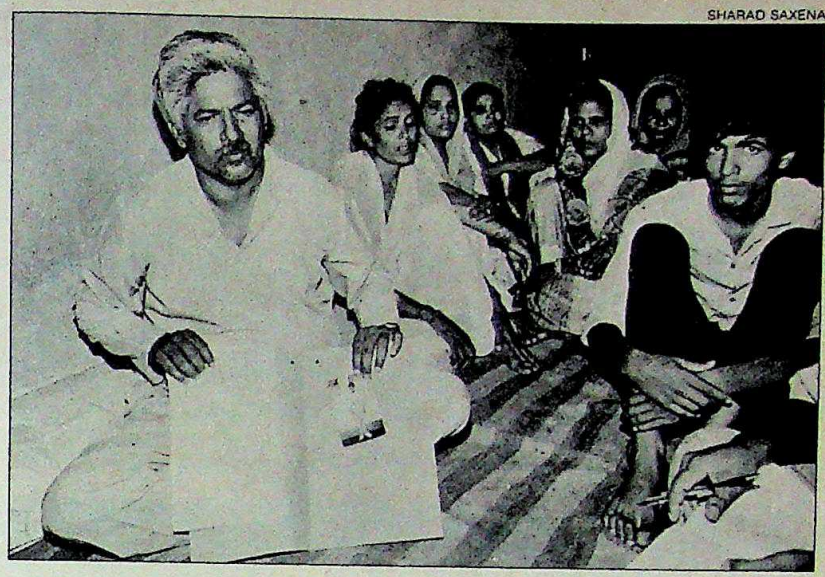
away. The prime minister's assurance that the Mandal Commission's recommendations would not apply to educational institutions, promotions in government jobs, recruitment to the army and paramilitary forces meant nothing to students. Nor did his decision to ask party President S.R. Bommai and Union Minister of State for Communications Janeshwar Mishra to initiate a dialogue with students improve matters.

Almost overnight, campuses across the Hindi belt were politicised. Students for whom Hindi films were staple fare eloquently discussed why Laloo Prasad Yadav is for reservations while Chimanbhai Patel is against it. But while the politicisation may have been welcome, the agitation also sharply divided students along caste lines. Said Harinder Kumar, a political science research scholar: "We used to have Hindu College vs St Stephens or Miranda House vs Lady Sriram College rivalries. Now they are forcing us to think on caste lines." Rajiv Sharma, an intern in King George Medical College, Lucknow, echoed that point: "Ever since the Mandal Commission report was announced and our agitation started, our Yadav and Gujjar friends have stopped talking to us."

But in most places, barring the occasional clash, the backward castes stayed off the streets leaving the field open for the anti-Mandal Commission agitators. At Delhi University, normally apolitical students braved police lathi charges to participate in protest rallies. When a speaker at a Delhi college seminar questioned the students' use of violence, a girl sprang up to scream: "This Government listens only to bullets. We are only breaking glasspanes."

Agitation proved a swift and effective political teacher. At many places, students have been quick to see through the efforts of political parties to exploit them. In Delhi, when BJP President L.K. Advani and MP Madan Lal Khurana visited Safdarjang Hospital to see the parents of Rajeev Goswami, students hooted them away. Advani was told to first denounce the Mandal Commission report, something he couldn't do since the party's election manifesto is committed to its implementation. Instead, he said he was opposing the police brutality. Said Devesh Kumar Singh, a second year law student: "They want to have their cake and eat it too. Only those publicly against the Mandal Commission can join us."

SHARAD SAXENA



SHARAD SAXENA

Sushil's family (top); army patrolling in Kurukshetra: high tension

IN Himachal Pradesh, BJP Chief Minister Shanta Kumar's attempt to use the students backfired. His open opposition to the Mandal Commission emboldened students to come out on the streets in the upper Himachal region but it led to a backlash by pro-reservationists in the lower Himachal region. The result: a spate of violence alien to the peace-loving state.

Other parties too hedged their bets. The Congress(I) did not condemn the Mandal report but party MP S.S. Ahluwalia and senior leader Subhash Chopra openly associated with Delhi University agitators. And in Bihar, Aditya Narain Singh, an upper caste Congress(I) legislator, led a violent rally against Yadavs.

Still, at least in some places, the students' movement was infiltrated by lumpen elements and politicians. As in Haryana, where former chief minister Om Prakash Chautala's Green Brigade exploited the agitation brazenly. While students stopped traffic on the highway in protest against the Mandal Commission's recommendations, Green Brigade activists raised slogans against the ouster of Devi Lal from the Union Cabinet. And Mahendra Singh Tikait, Devi Lal's ally at present, abandoned his normal anti-urban and anti-English positions to address a student meeting in Delhi.

But even these cynical attempts to exploit the agitation were an acknowledgement of the students' power—and of their ability to change political equations all over the country. With none of the political parties willing to sit together and arrive at a national consensus, it was evident that the country was heading towards another round of instability. What was worse, while the agitation had succeeded in shaking the minority government headed by V.P. Singh, there was no guarantee that any other combination of political leaders or parties would be able to survive the storm unleashed by Mandal. —PANKAJ PACHAURI and PHILIP GEORGE with FARZAND AHMED in Patna, DILIP AWASTHI in Lucknow and bureau reports

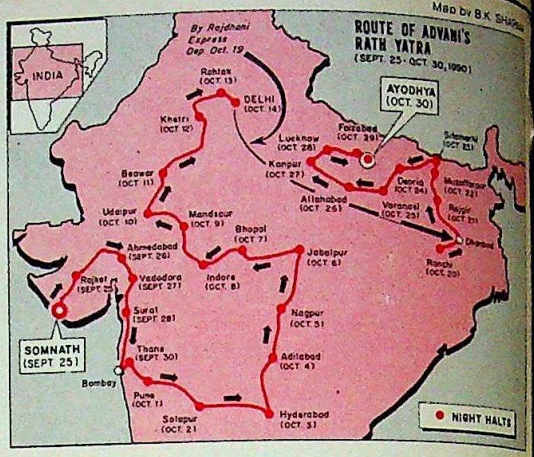
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

NATIONAL POLITICS

BJP on the Warpath

The party hurls a formidable challenge at the V.P. Singh Government with its dramatic revival of the militant Hindu card.



WHEN Lal Krishna Advani stepped onto his air-conditioned rath, the temple of his dreams 10,000 km and some 30 days away, he was making an unmistakably dramatic gesture: flinging down the gauntlet at Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh, and beaming a message to the Indian masses. A message that could be missed only by the blind and the deaf. The BJP president, treating the moment as historic, dressed in spotless dhoti and khadi silk kurta, was announcing loud and clear that he may well be the alternative leader the country is looking for, and that his party has agendas that can steal the thunder from the inflammatory piece of legislation that is the Mandal Commission.

Above his party's factional politics, mild-mannered but unabashedly plain-spoken, the Laxman Common Man look-alike had chosen a thunderous moment to strike. And the response from the people was no less rousing. From Somnath, on Navratri, celebrants and activists of the BJP, VHP, and Bajrang Dal rent the air with *Hindutva* cries. But Advani, displaying the mixture of restraint and rhetoric that have marked him out from the rest of the BJP, prevailed upon the people to desist from raising any slogans that would excite communal passions. And as proof of his party's 'positive secularism', two Muslims graced the show: Sikandar Bakht and Salim, the driver of Advani's rath.

As the rath hit the road led by sword-brandishing Rajput youth, there was no doubting that the BJP had pulled out all the stops to reclaim its political mass base, so direly threatened by the 'Mandal monster'. That the BJP, severely disappointed by V.P. Singh on virtually every count *(see interview)*, had decided to project Advani as the logical alternative. And that in this the RSS was one with it: RSS chief Balasaheb Deoras'

PRASHANT PANJIAR

The battle lines are clear as the BJP has publicly associated itself with the VHP-RSS line that the Ram temple will be constructed starting October 30, no matter what the courts decide.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

brother, Bhaorao Deoras, spent two weeks in Delhi co-ordinating Advani's Rath Yatra plans.

Clearly, even before Advani's Hindu juggernaut began to roll, it was evident that the BJP had exploded a political bombshell whose shrapnel was flying in all directions. It was the party's answer, in its very own ideological idiom, to the implementation of the Mandal Commission recommendations on which V.P. Singh had not even consulted the BJP—which, with its 86 MPs is the strongest pillar of support to Singh's minority Government and could well determine its survival or downfall.

During the party's three-day conclave at Bhopal from September 14 to 16, Advani had thundered: "The Government can't go on ignoring us and take our support for granted." That veiled threat was disconcerting enough—but could still be ignored. It was the surprise announcement of the Yatra that shook V.P. Singh's Government hard. So much so that within a day, the prime minister said publicly that he was ready to "sit in the Opposition", if the BJP withdrew its support.

SINGH'S message, obliquely delivered, was nonetheless clear when he added that the country could expect a "different political mosaic". In his own convoluted style, he was conveying three points to the BJP: first, that he wouldn't go in for a mid-term poll; second, that he wouldn't let anyone else from his party become prime minister; and third, that Rajiv Gandhi would most likely become the prime minister if the BJP withdrew support to the National Front Government.

The BJP does not want to be labelled as the wrecking crew that brought Rajiv back to power. That could prove utterly damaging to its own political image. It would rather let the Government force the issue that would justify a break in the public's mind as well as serve as an electoral slogan. As a senior BJP activist confided: "It's a question of being able to choose your battle-ground." So for the time being, the BJP has again reiterated its "critical support" for the Government, but has refused to call off the Yatra which will assume the dimensions of a mass agitation against the Government.

The battle lines are clearer than they have ever been. The BJP has now

PRAMOD PUSHKARNA

The BJP's Bhopal conclave: threatening postures

BHOPAL MEET

Gearing up for Action

THE party leadership's frontal attack on the V.P. Singh Government at its three-day Bhopal conclave was the clearest indication of the BJP's new mood of confrontation. The atmosphere at the Bhopal meet, where 700 MPs and MLAs gathered, reflected the change. On the last day, all delegates were presented with saffron scarfs with the inscription: *"Jai Siya Ram"*. And there were shouts of *"Shree Ram Chandra ki Jai"* and *"Jai Siya Ram"* at frequent intervals.

The entire conclave centred around Hinduism, with little attention being paid to economic or foreign issues. The BJP leadership seemed convinced that in the wake of V.P. Singh Mandalising the country, only the Hindu card could save it at the hustings. "He is playing politics," complained Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Sunderlal Patwa.

Another significant development was VHP General Secretary Ashok Singhal's secret visit to Bhopal during the conference. The visit was denied by the BJP and even many senior leaders were unaware of it. Singhal was reportedly summoned for confabulation with the top leadership to give the final touches to BJP President L.K. Advani's Rath Yatra. With his experience in organising the Ram Janmabhoomi Rath Yatras last year, the BJP leaders found Singhal's assistance invaluable in chalking out a strategy to rouse Hindu sentiments.

The attacks on the National Front Government were scathing. Advani described the nine-month rule of the Government as dismal: "This government has failed on all four major issues on which it was elected—Kashmir, Punjab, Bofors and prices." The disenchantment with Rajiv Gandhi came after two years but in the case of this government it has come much faster, Advani said. And Atal Behari Vajpayee declared that this government too was following the path of minority appeasement.

Though there is much anger in the BJP rank and file against the Central Government "playing politics", few want it to fall now. That would jeopardise their own governments in Madhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh, and the coalitions with the Janata Dal in Gujarat and Rajasthan. While some party members urged a measure of moderation on the Ayodhya issue, others were militant. Said party's General Secretary Kushabhau Thakre: "We don't want to bring down the Government but we must make it clear that our manifesto is different from theirs."

Those supporting drastic action included the ebullient MP from Chhatarpur, Uma Bharati: "Construction of the temple is so important for me that I don't care whether the Government remains or goes." —N.K. SINGH

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

your perfect kitchen companion

AUTHORISED DEALERS

MADHYA PRADESH

☐ **BILASPUR:** M/s. Roop General Stores, Gole Bazar • M/s. New Ram & Shyam Metal Stores, Gole Bazar • M/s. Aggarwal Stores, Gole Bazar ☐ **BHOPAL:** M/s. Ram Chand Glass Stores, P.O. Bairagarh, • M/s. Lucky Centre, Lalhuwani Road, ☐ **CHINDWARA:** M/s. Parbhat General Stores, Budhwari Bazar ☐ **CHHATARPUR:** M/s. Hazari Lal Narain Das, Chowk Bazar ☐ **DURG:** M/s. Subhash Metals, Jawahar Chowk • M/s. Paras Metals, Jawahar Chowk • M/s. Jain Aluminium, Dhimarpara • M/s. Marauti Brothers, Indira Market ☐ **GWALIOR:** M/s. Pahu Ram Peshu Ram, Topi Bazar • M/s. Steel Palace, Jamuna Lal Market, Sarafa Bazar • M/s. Shri Kishan Prabhu Dayal Aggarwal, Sarafa Bazar, Lashkar • M/s. Cooker Sales Corp., Phalkeki Goth, Lashkar ☐ **INDORE:** M/s. Bombay Electric House, 6/5, Khatipura, M.G. Road • M/s. Kumar Departmental Stores, M.G. Road (Krishanapura) • M/s. Ram Chand Govind Ram, 2, Kasera Bazar • M/s. Chhoit Ram & Sons, 23, Shri Mahavir Marg • M/s. Ram Chand & Sons, Kasera Bazar • M/s. Ghanshyam Brothers, 31 Shri Mahavir Marg, ☐ **JABALPUR:** M/s. Citizen Centre, 24-25, Ashirwad Market, Ganjipura Chowk • M/s. National Stores, Jawahar Ganj • M/s. Ashirwad Steel Emporium, 18, Ashirwad Market, Lord Ganj • M/s. Perfect Traders, Kotwali Bazar • M/s. Narayan Brothers, 631, Khatik Mohalla, Sarafa Bazar ☐ **KORBA:** M/s. Shri Ram Gopal Radhey Shyam Aggarwal, Main Road, ☐ **KATNI:** M/s. Bharat Steels, Shalimar Market • M/s. Radhaswami Bartan Bhandar, Madhav Nagar • M/s. Guru Nanak Crockery Store, Gole Bazar ☐ **RAIPUR:** M/s. Bombay Toys Centre, Banjari Road • M/s. Man Mohan Chand Jain, Sadar Bazar • M/s. Surana Brothers, P. Box No. 27/59, Malviya Road • M/s. Abhinav Traders, 19, Ashok Market, Naya Para • M/s. J.M. Dagga Metal Mart, Budhapura • M/s. Suresh Brothers, P. Box No. 53, Malviya Road • M/s. Indian Gift House, 4/5, Shadani Market, Banjari Road ☐ **REWA:** M/s. Vijay Crockery Stores, Venkat Road, • M/s. Raj Electrical, Shop No. 8, Venkat Market, ☐ **RATLAM:** M/s. Nandan Agencies, 10/A, Dalu Modi Bazar • M/s. Hakimuddin & Sons, Manek Chowk ☐ **SATNA:** M/s. Gifto Steel Centre, Panni Lal Chowk • M/s. Budhu Lal Govind Parsad, Behind Chandni Talkies ☐ **SAGAR:** M/s. Jaina Steel, Katra Bazar • M/s. Shobha Ram Suresh Chand, Chakra Ghat ☐ **UJJAIN:** M/s. Ali Mohd. Ghulam Hussain, Gopal Mandir Marg, Chowk Bazar • M/s. Maha Laxmi Patra Bhandar, 125, Patni Bazar.

BIHAR

☐ **PATNA:** M/s. Ajanta Commercial Co. Exhibition Road, Patna Jn-800001

HIMACHAL PRADESH

☐ **KULLU:** M/s. Kakar & Lamba General Stores, Akhara Bazar, ☐ **MANDI:** M/s. Himachal General Stores, Gandhi Chowk, ☐ **MANALI:** M/s. Thomas Stores, The Mall Manali, M/s. Him General Stores, The Mall, ☐ **PARWANOO:** M/s. Himachal Wholesale Syndicate, S.C.F. 7, Sec-1, ☐ **RAMPUR BUSHAHR:** M/s. Ram Kishan Jiva Ram, Main Bazar, • M/s. Shyam Singh & Brothers, Main Bazar, • M/s. Rajneesh Brothers, Main Bazar, ☐ **SHIMLA:** M/s. Sant Lal Inder Sain Aggarwal, 31, Lower Bazar, M/s. Janeshwar Lal Rajeshwar Lal, Lower Bazar, • M/s. Bengal Crockery House, Egg Market, ☐ **TAPRI:** • M/s. Gian Chand Yash Paul Vij, V & P.O. Tapri

WEST BENGAL

☐ **BURDWAN:** M/s. West Bengal Store, 185, B.B. Ghosh Road, Tentultala, ☐ **SILIGURI:** M/s. Saris Tea Co., Chowdhary Katra, Mahabirsthan.

MANIPUR

☐ **IMPHAL:** M/s. Debdoot Enterprises, Thangal Bazar, P.O. Imphal

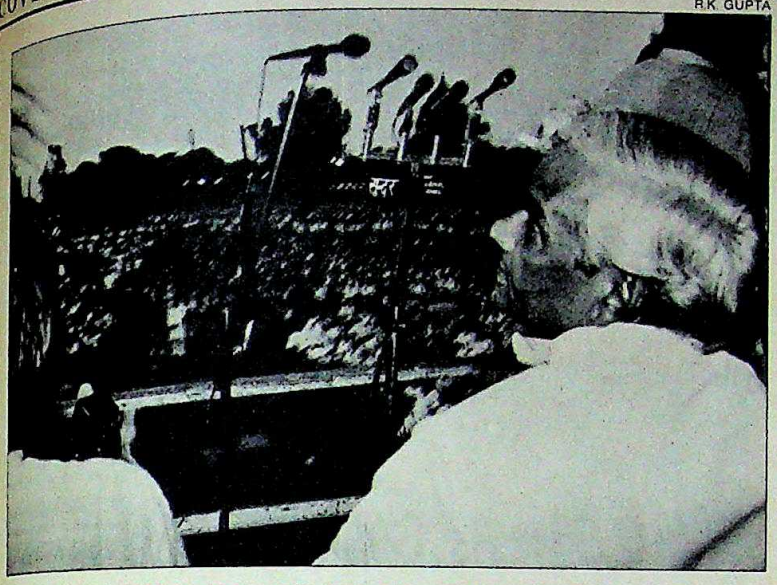
ASSAM

☐ **GAUHATI:** M/s. Priya Nath Kar, Dewan Petty Road, Fancy Bazar,

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

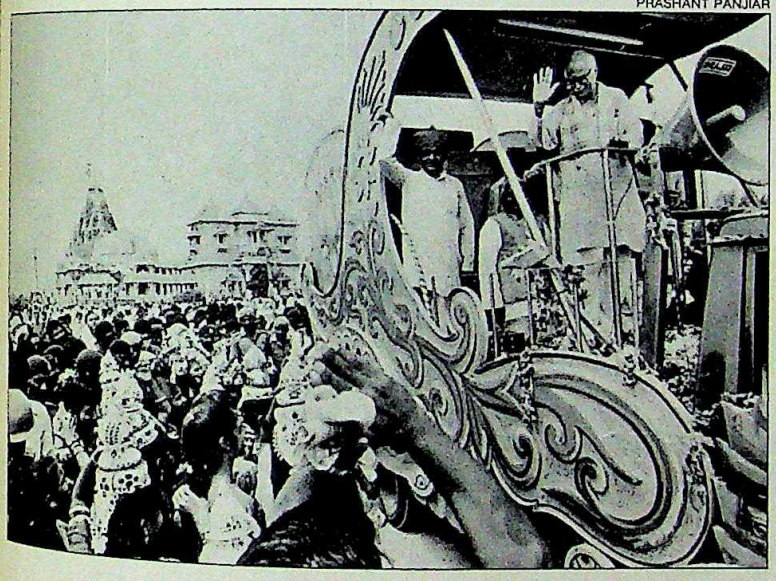
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

R.K. GUPTA



Vajpayee addressing a rally in Lucknow: returning to the roots

PRASHANT PANJIAR



Advani takes off from Somnath: religious juggernaut

publicly associated itself with the VHP-RSS line that the Ram temple will be constructed starting October 30 no matter what the courts decide. The ruling party's position, most effectively articulated by the prime minister and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Mulayam Singh Yadav, is that it will not allow the construction and the court verdict will have to be enforced. Said a BJP chief minister: "As soon as a sadhu dies in the confrontation, the public outcry will turn against the Government."

The decision to organise the Rath Yatra was taken not at the party headquarters at New Delhi's 13, Ashok Road, but at a top secret meeting of the party's national team—a small think-tank of the national executive—at Advani's residence where the members concluded that the implementation of the Mandal report could severely hurt the party and divide its ranks. It also figured that V.P. Singh was heading for a snap poll and the BJP should not be caught napping.

FOR a year, the party had held its Ram card in abeyance. But sensing a renewed attempt at isolating it from the mainstream of the nation's politics, it resorted to its most effective political weapon—a return to its Hindu roots, the same go-it-alone strategy that it used to its benefit in 1988-89 until just before the elections.

And to dispel any doubts about its intentions, Atal Behari Vajpayee resigned from the Committee on Communal Harmony of the National Integration Council (NIC). The ostensible reason for the pull-out was a government leak to the press on the committee's deliberations in which the BJP leaders supposedly agreed to abide by the court decision on Ayodhya. But the real reason was an item on the council's agenda, to be taken up three days later in Madras, asking all members to support the Uttar Pradesh Government's stand that the court verdict should be enforced strictly. Rather than face embarrassing isolation within the council, the BJP simply stayed away.

The BJP's hostility to V.P. Singh was visibly coming to a boil through the last several months. Its Delhi leaders had been most vociferously criticising his Government for dragging its feet on the National Front's manifesto commitment to give statehood to Delhi. But following the Mandal announcement on August 7, a high-level meeting was held at Delhi's RSS headquarters at which its senior functionaries concluded that Singh and his government were becoming the catalysts for the disintegration of the nation. The RSS leadership stopped short of giving a directive to the BJP to pull down the Government only because party General Secretary Murli Manohar Joshi succeeded in cautioning restraint for the time being.

There are several other reasons that prompted the BJP to embark on its collision course with the National Front Government.

A party survey by 11 senior members who toured various states last month and elicited responses to detailed questionnaires from 1,200 party leaders including MPs and MLAs, concluded that the party had been unable to parlay its electoral successes into a further expansion of its mass base. And there were several reasons for this:

► The rise in prices was hurting its image because people critical of the Government on this issue equally blame the BJP which is an ally of the Government at the Centre.

► The performance of the three BJP-run states was not satisfactory. Fissures within state units were widening, placing Madhya Pradesh's Sunderlal Patwa, Rajasthan's Bhairon Singh Shekhawat, and Himachal Pradesh's Shanta Kumar in an uncomfortable position.

And the party's position in the national power equation is complex. In Madhya Pradesh and Himachal it is in power, in Rajasthan and Gujarat it is sharing power, in Delhi and several

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

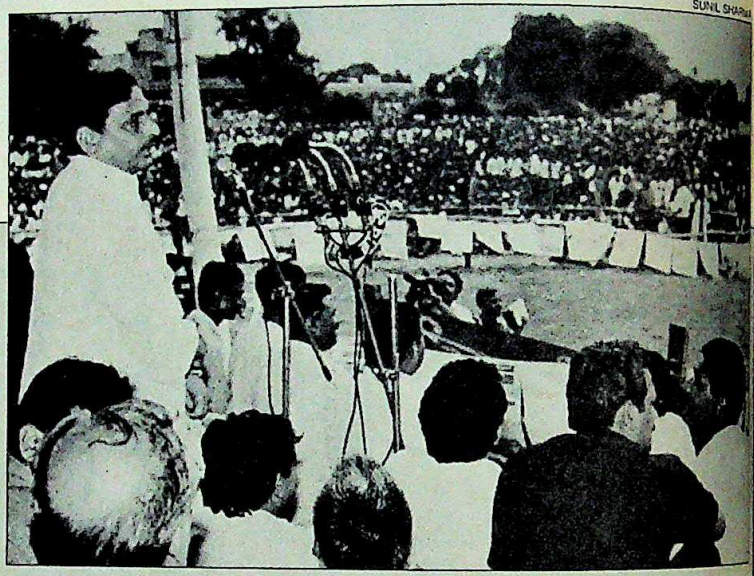
other states it is supporting the National Front governments, and in the rest of the country it is in the Opposition.

To add to the confusion came the acceptance of the Mandal report like a bolt from the blue. It has rocked the BJP-ruled states, especially Himachal, where the government employees went on strike against the reservation policy and the army had to be called out. In addition, the BJP's urban-based middle class supporters—middle India—were furious that the party did not openly oppose the Mandal report. But if the party did that it would be risking losing support in rural areas where it had made significant inroads with the backward castes during the November election.

The party was facing a classic dilemma: if it supported Mandal, it lost its urban followers, mostly the educated middle class; and if it opposed Mandal, it risked losing a large chunk of backward Hindus concentrated in the rural areas. So the party decided to remain equivocal. Which again puts it in an uncomfortable position where the Janata Dal monopolises the OBCs by its unstinted support to Mandal, and the Congress(I), now emitting anti-Mandal vibrations in public, competes for the BJP's urban following.

Another critical difference with the ruling party was what BJP leaders call V.P. Singh's excessive "minorityism" or public "appeasement" of the Muslims. In Delhi V.P. Singh declares Prophet Mohammad's birthday a public holiday from the Red Fort on Independence Day. In Lucknow, Mulayam Singh Yadav openly attacks the BJP and VHP and threatens to arrest Hindu priests. BJP cadres were confused and even becoming disenchanted with their own party

SUNIL SHARMA



Mulayam Singh Yadav at a rally in Mathura: a provocative posture

UTTAR PRADESH-BIHAR

Crucible of Conflict

MULAYAM Singh Yadav and Laloo Prasad Yadav have much in common besides their names. The chief ministers of the two most populous—and communally sensitive—states in the nation have both taken virtually identical stands on the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid issue. Both are gearing up their state machineries to combat the BJP-VHP combine's preparations leading up to D-day, October 30. Both say they will not allow anyone—no matter how important—to fan communal fires in their states.

Equally determined is the VHP—with the BJP only a shade less—to head towards Ayodhya and start construction of a Ram temple regardless of the consequences. With the VHP completing recruitment of *kar sevaks* by end-September and sending its Ram Jyotis throughout the land, the communal time bomb has started ticking.

And the two chief ministers in the hottest seats are the two Yadavs. Though as many as 800 of the 7,000 Ram Jyotis are being lit in Uttar Pradesh, the torches are aflame in Bihar as well. One casualty of the heightened religiosity will naturally be communal harmony. Last year, a series of communal riots in Bihar culminated in the gruesome Bhagalpur massacre. This year augurs to be equally bad—unless the Government pulls off a minor miracle and contains the situation. For before the drama culminates in Ayodhya, the VHP-BJP brigade will be storming Bihar. BJP President L.K. Advani's Rath Yatra covers 14 districts in Bihar before entering Uttar Pradesh on October 24. And VHP General Secretary Ashok Singhal has already traversed the state, addressing a number of huge rallies.

As for Uttar Pradesh, if the state Government can stop a communal bloodbath, it would be no less an achievement. Already, worrying signals have come in from across the state. Communal violence in Bareilly, Agra and Meerut claimed four lives in September while minor communal flare ups were reported from 13 other places in the state. October portends to be a far bloodier month.

With Ayodhya in his state, it is Mulayam Singh Yadav who has stolen the so-called secular thunder. He has been travelling the length and breadth of his state to address anti-communal rallies. But despite the complete cooperation of the district administrations—and the propaganda that those attending the chief minister's meeting might have their loans written off, one of the reasons for the huge crowds Yadav has been drawing—it has not been an easy journey for him. Bandhs called by the BJP and VHP have greeted him every where. In many districts VHP-BJP supporters have offered resistance. Before the start of the Bareilly rally on September 15, Janata Dal and VHP activists exchanged fire resulting in the death of two persons—a sign of how violent the confrontation could become. Yadav's programme has now been curtailed from 43 to 30 public meetings, over half of which have already been addressed by him.

At each meeting he has not minced words about the VHP and BJP. At one rally he threatened to arrest every national BJP leaders. Retorted the BJP's state General Secretary Kalraj Misra: "I can only assure him that this is going to be suicidal for him." At another

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

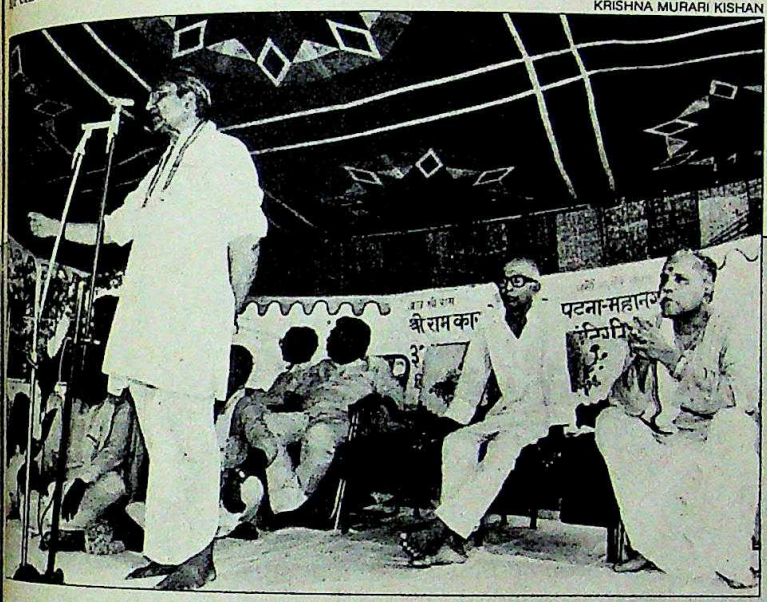
which was actually supporting these leaders to stay in power. Though BJP's top political echelon understood the compulsions behind these contradictions, they were unable to explain these glaring anomalies to their rank and file.

THE Ayodhya campaign was the only remedy. The intensification of the campaign pushes the issue of prices in the background; provides the BJP chief ministers a chance to project a different identity; promises to bind the post-Mandal fractious Hindus together; and convinces the BJP rank and file that their party is not a partner in V.P. Singh's pro-minority stands. And the temple is the only issue which can match the multi-dimensional challenge of Mandalism. Said a senior BJP leader: "Mandir is our answer to Mandal."

For the time being the Muslims have thrown their entire weight behind Yadav and V.P. Singh. But the community has kept an eerie silence on the proposed Rath Yatra. This is because it has put the burden of fighting what it calls Hindu communal forces directly on the back of Singh's Government rather than taking it up itself as a community. Said a Muslim Janata Dal leader: "The attitude is, we gave you the votes, it's up to you to protect us."

In the same vein, the Shahi Imam of Delhi's Jama Masjid, Abdullah Bukhari, has avoided commenting on the BJP's plans. Obviously, sensing the support of V.P. Singh at the Centre and Yadav in Uttar Pradesh, the Muslim clergy was playing safe lest it was blamed later for creating problems. Syed Shahabuddin of the Babri Masjid Movement Co-ordination Committee was more vocal. He called Advani a Goebbels and his

KRISHNA MURARI KISHAN



Ashok Singhal addressing Bihar meeting: inflammatory rhetoric

meeting Yadav said: "If the mandir construction is done in Ayodhya, Kashmir would go to Pakistan. I am not going to allow this." Immediately the BJP's Kalyan Singh pounced on Yadav, saying: "This can only be a statement of an anti-national. He is trying to incite the minorities by terrorising them."

The VHP leaders are even more strident about "Mullah" or "Mohammad" Singh Yadav. Ashok Singhal describes him as a man who has lost his "balance of mind". And according to Sharad Chandra Mishra, the militant Jagran Manch's spokesman: "The only option for Yadav is to participate in the *kar seva* and be like his wife and son who performed Ram shila puja last year in Etawah."

With abuses flying thick and fast and communal clouds hovering on the horizon, all officials in Uttar Pradesh are on tenterhooks. The state machinery will organise flag marches in 18 districts in the first week of October in view of the mounting Hindu-Muslim tension. All district magistrates have been told to keep a watch on the VHP and stop the *vijay yatras* and *jathas* from leaving their districts.

FAIZABAD District Magistrate R.S. Srivastava, says that between October 28, the day of '14 Kosi Parikrama' and November 2, 'Kartik Purnima', Ayodhya receives 18 to 20 lakh pilgrims every year. And despite Yadav advising people against going to Ayodhya, the administration expects about 8 to 10 lakh pilgrims to head towards the disputed shrine—besides 2.5 lakh VHP-BJP *kar sevaks* determined to build a temple there. It is because of this that Yadav went to the extent of announcing that he might ban the 'parikrama' this year, though the next day he clarified that he had not banned the function but had only said that people should avoid going to Ayodhya. Still, official sources do not rule out the banning of the 'parikrama' if the situation appears to be getting out of hand.

Said a senior official at Faizabad: "We would not like to think about what will happen after October 15. We only hope that we will be able to deal with it." For Ayodhya alone, the state Government has asked for 100 companies of military, para military and Central forces. Significantly, though no such announcement has been made, the state government plans to keep the Provincial Armed Constabulary—a force often accused of fanning rather than curbing communal violence—away from sensitive areas in Ayodhya.

The first confrontation in the ongoing drama, however, took place not in Uttar Pradesh but in Hazaribagh district, Bihar. When the BJP and VHP threatened to take out a Ramnavmi procession through the sensitive Mahudi village, Laloo Prasad got the opportunity to prove that that he is as secular as his namesake in Uttar Pradesh. He banned the procession and succeeded in containing the situation.

But though Laloo Yadav has repeatedly stated that "I will never compromise secularism for power," he will have to tread more carefully than Mulayam Yadav. For should the BJP withdraw support, his government could collapse, while Mulayam Yadav does not need the BJP's support.

Whether the Babri Masjid is demolished and a Ram temple built at Ayodhya or not, political reputations in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar will definitely be built—or demolished—in the month of October. What is equally certain is that many lives will be lost in the senseless communal bloodbath.

—DILIP AWASTHI with FARZAND AHMED

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

 Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Yatra "a march of fascism".

In seizing the Ram Janmabhoomi issue again, the BJP stands alone. The Congress(I), having learnt from the last general elections that it cannot run with the secular hare and hunt with the communal hound, has changed its tack. Rajiv Gandhi not only dubbed Advani's Yatra "diabolical" but went ahead with announcing his own march for communal harmony. As for the communists, they are piggy-backing on Mulayam Yadav's anti-BJP campaign. Since the Leftists don't have any mass base in this state, Yadav's rallies are not only providing them a platform to identify with the minorities and the backwards, but are also giving enough exposure to its leaders.

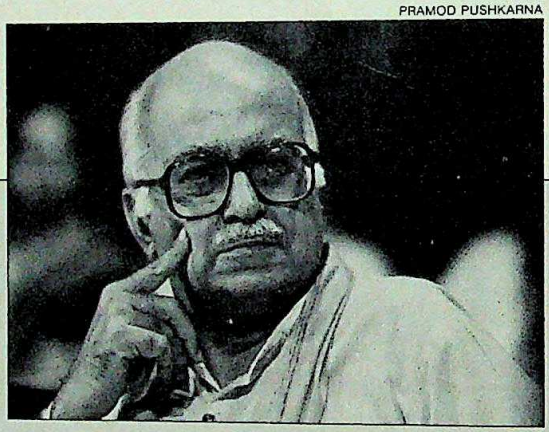
Painted into a corner, V.P. Singh while remaining firm on Mandal, has initiated moves to dilute its impact on government jobs, and ministers close to him were last fortnight scrounging around for face-saving devices such as job schemes for the economically weaker sections. On Ayodhya, Singh had initiated dialogue with religious leaders. After the NIC meeting, the Union Minister of State for Home Subodh Kant Sahai made a secret visit to the Shankarcharya of Kanchi's ashram. The strategy: to ask the religious leaders to appeal to the VHP and the BJP to start construction without touching the mosque.

A brewing political crisis apart, what is giving Home Ministry officials sleepless nights is the expected fall-out of the BJP's Yatra and VHP's torch campaign. And their worry is justified. After the Ram shila yatras started in mid-'89, the communal graph raced upwards. In 1987, communal incidents took 383 lives in the country, and in 1988 the number dipped to 223. In the first half of 1989, only 94 people died, but as the Ram shila campaign gained momentum, the toll went up to an alarming 708 people during the second half of 1989.

But what is equally dangerous is that the entire political scene has been thrown into a bizarre disequilibrium in which every party simply grabs at the most convenient straw for its survival. Reactions beget reactions instead of mature and calibrated responses. The BJP reacts to the Congress(I)'s Muslim Women's Bill by taking up the Ayodhya cause. The Janata Dal reacts to its internecine squabbles by dredging up Mandal. The BJP responds by resurrecting the Ram card. The Congress(I) reacts by criticising Mandal notwithstanding its inclusion in its manifesto, and condemning the Hindu card even after having attempted to play it in November last year. Yet in this universe of knee-jerk politics, there are few principled stands, only large doses of brinkmanship that threaten to take the nation to the brink.

—PRABHU CHAWLA and PANKAJ PACHAURI

PRAMOD PUSHKARNA



L.K. ADVANI

"I reject theocracy"

THE soft-spoken BJP *President, L.K. Advani, 62, has decided to ride the present Hindu fundamentalist wave, built over the past six years by the* VHP, *by undertaking a Rath Yatra from Somnath to Ayodhya. He explained his reasons for doing so to Senior Correspondent* PANKAJ PACHAURI. *Excerpts:*

Q. *Why did your Rath Yatra plan begin after the Mandal report was accepted?*

A. I had been planning a massive programme to propagate the BJP's stand on the Ram Janmabhoomi ever since the VHP announced the October 30 deadline. Mandal's fall-out was not much on the BJP.

Q. *Can the Ayodhya issue unify the fractious Hindu community?*

A. Ayodhya can help not just to unify the Hindus—Ram can contribute to national harmony. The BJP is not in favour of demolishing the existing structure but wants it shifted to another place. We will organise an equally formidable *kar seva* for it.

Q. *The Muslims have agreed to abide by even an unfavourable court verdict. Will you also do so?*

A. No. Because Ayodhya is a case which cannot be decided by a court. The court can decide the title to the land, or a trespass; not whether Babar demolished a temple in 1528 to construct a mosque in its place.

Q. *But the title of the land on which you want to build a temple can be decided only by the court.*

A. The Government can decide it. If it decides to build the temple, it can acquire the land. The Hindus want to build a temple at the place which is believed to be the birth place of Ram. If in India this sentiment is not respected, the consequences won't be happy. I find a reaction here which I didn't find in 1947.

Q. *Will the reaction be worse?*

A. Yes. But I don't blame the Muslims. Everyone is asking the VHP (to stop its campaign) instead of persuading the Muslims.

Q. *What is your reaction to the present Government's stand?*

A. I am unhappy at the manner in which the Government has allowed the matter to drift. It accepted the Mandal report without even talking to us, though V.P. Singh talks to us even about changing his ministers.

Q. *There is a fear that your Rath Yatra may spark violence.*

A. The Government always projects an alarmist view. Last year *shila poojans* were organised on a massive scale. And they were peaceful.

Q. *Why has the BJP agreed to be led by the VHP on the Ayodhya campaign? The VHP preaches theocracy and seeks the guidance of various sadhus...*

A. The VHP began the campaign. Only at the BJP's Palampur meeting did we adopt a formal resolution on Ram Janmabhoomi. Why they (the VHP) go to the sadhus, you can ask them. I reject theocracy.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

omentum,
rming 708
lf of 1989.
ngerous is
e has been
ilibrium in
rabs at the
s survival.
instead of
onses. The
)'s Muslim
up the
Dal reacts
by dredg-
sponds by
The Cong-
g Mandal
sion in its
the Hindu
attempted
t year. Yet
rk politics.
principled
e doses of
t threaten
o the brink.
HAWLA and
PACHAURI

I don't
ms. Ev-
the VHP
ign) in-
ng the

ur reac-
nt Gov-

oy at the
he Gov-
wed the
ccepted
t with-
gh V.P.
chang-

ur Rath

ays pro-
ear *shila*
massive
ful.
ed to be
yodhya
s theoc-
of vari-

mpaign,
meeting
tion on
ney (the
can ask

THE SECRET OF LASTING BEAUTY.

Touchwood.
It polishes wood to glowing perfection.

Unlike ordinary polish, only Touchwood contains polyurethane which protects furniture from stains, scratches and termites. And keeps it looking beautiful for years.

Touchwood is transparent and is available in matt and glossy finishes. And Touchwood is so easy to use that even your painter can apply it.

So write in for more information on Touchwood, and discover the secret of lasting beauty for your furniture.

Yes! I would like to know how Touchwood can keep my furniture beautiful for years. Do mail me your brochure.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

Mail to : Product Manager – Wood Finishes

asian paints

P.O. Box No. 11701, Bombay 400 021.

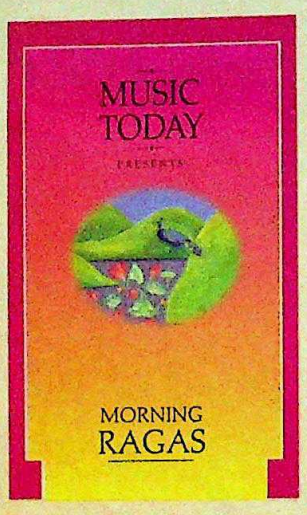
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

INDIA TO[illegible] MUSIC TODAY. RAG[illegible]

A unique musical journey through the colours of the day and night. On 16 one-hou[illegible] for pure sound fidelity. An[illegible]

THE FINEST IN MU[illegible]

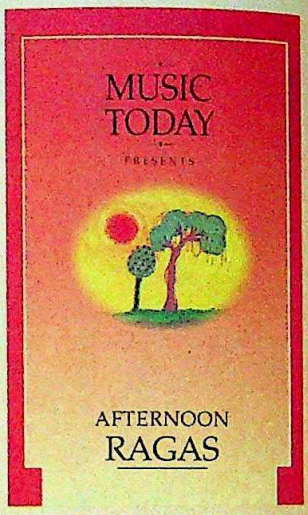


Volume 1 (Code A90001)
LALIT - *Rajan & Sajan Mishra* (Vocal)
BHAIRAV - *Shahid Parvez* (Sitar)
AHIR BHAIRAV - *Shruti Sadolikar* (Vocal)

Volume 2 (Code A90002)
MIAN KI TODI - *Amjad Ali Khan* (Sarod)
BHATIYAR - *Pandit Jasraj* (Vocal)
VIBHAS - *Shruti Sadolikar* (Vocal)

Volume 3 (Code A90003)
JAUNPURI - *Padma Talwalkar* (Vocal)
BILASKHANI TODI - *Amjad Ali Khan* (Sarod)
DESI TODI - *Hariprasad Chaurasia* (Flute)

Volume 4 (Code A90004)
KUKUBH BILAWAL - *Mallikarjun Mansur* (Vocal)
DESHKAR - *Shahid Parvez* (Sitar)
BHAIRAVI - *Padma Talwalkar* (Vocal)



Volume 1 (Code A90005)
SHUDDH SARANG - *Amjad Ali Khan* (Sarod)
SUGHRAI - *Mallikarjun Mansur* (Vocal)
GAUD SARANG - *Padma Talwalkar* (Vocal)

Volume 2 (Code A90006)
BRINDABANI SARANG - *Hariprasad Chaurasia* (Flute)
MADHMAD SARANG - *Pandit Jasraj* (Vocal)
DHANI - *Shahid Parvez* (Sitar)

Volume 3 (Code A90007)
BHIMPALASI - *Mallikarjun Mansur* (Vocal)
PATDEEP - *Shruti Sadolikar* (Vocal)
MAND - *Shahid Parvez* (Sitar)

Volume 4 (Code A90008)
MULTANI - *Rajan & Sajan Mishra* (Vocal)
MADHUVANTI - *Hariprasad Chaurasia* (Flute)
PILU - *Amjad Ali Khan* (Sarod)

PRICE (Including taxes, packing and forwarding)

One cassette	Rs. 45	
Any two cassettes	Rs. 90	
Any three cassettes	Rs. 125	**Saving of over 7% on the single cassette rate.**
Any four cassettes or more	@ Rs. 40 per cassette	**Saving of over 11% on the single cassette rate.**

SPECIAL OFFERS

A FREE INDIA TODAY REGULAR SIZE ADDRESS BOOK. A one time single order of 16 MUSIC TODAY cassettes entitles you to a free regular size INDIA TODAY ADDRESS BOOK costing Rs. 85.

A FREE INDIA TODAY COMPACT ADDRESS BOOK. A one time single order of 8 to 15 MUSIC TODAY cassettes entitles you to a free compact INDIA TODAY ADDRESS BOOK costing Rs. 50.

PLEASE NOTE

* Add Rs. 5 for outstation cheques (i.e. cheques outside Delhi
* Cheques/Demand Drafts payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Ma[illegible] Delhi must be MICR only.
* For M.O. please clearly indicate the code number and qu[illegible] cassettes ordered on the M.O. form as well as the receipt
* **Cassettes will be home delivered by Registered Post/Co[illegible]**
* Please allow a lead time of 3-4 weeks for delivery.
* For gift instructions please give recipient's name and addr[illegible] separate sheet.
* Please make payments favouring LIVING MEDIA INDIA [illegible] mail to MUSIC TODAY, P.O. BOX 29, NEW DELHI 110 00[illegible]
* **If the attached order form is missing, please send your [illegible] alongwith name, address and remittance to MUSIC TODA[illegible] P.O. Box 29, New Delhi 110 001.**

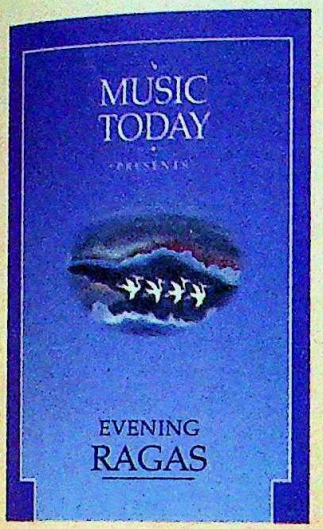
CC-0. In[illegible] Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ESENTS
OM DAWN TO NIGHT

...ded and interpreted afresh by a stunning galaxy of musicians. Digitally mastered ...ssetteep by mail or courier.

STENING PLEASURE

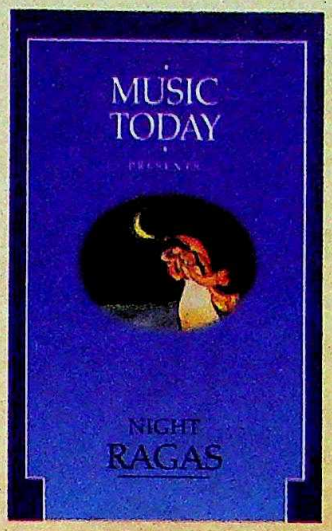


Volume 1 (Code A90009)
MARWA - *Pandit Jasraj* (Vocal)
SHREE - *Shruti Sadolikar* (Vocal)
HAMSADHWANI - *Shahid Parvez* (Sitar)

Volume 2 (Code A90010)
POORIYA - *Rajan & Sajan Mishra* (Vocal)
SHYAM KALYAN - *Amjad Ali Khan* (Sarod)
NAND - *Mallikarjun Mansur* (Vocal)

Volume 3 (Code A90011)
SHUDDH KALYAN - *Padma Talwalkar* (Vocal)
MANJH KHAMMAJ - *Hariprasad Chaurasia* (Flute)
DURGA - *Rajan & Sajan Mishra* (Vocal)

Volume 4 (Code A90012)
YAMAN - *Shahid Parvez* (Sitar)
SHANKARA - *Pandit Jasraj* (Vocal)
MISHRA GHARA - *Shruti Sadolikar* (Vocal)



Volume 1 (Code A90013)
SHUDDH NAT - *Mallikarjun Mansur* (Vocal)
KEDAR - *Padma Talwalkar* (Vocal)
JHINJHOTI - *Hariprasad Chaurasia* (Flute)

Volume 2 (Code A90014)
BAGESHWARI - *Pandit Jasraj* (Vocal)
HAMIR - *Padma Talwalkar* (Vocal)
TILAK KAMOD - *Shahid Parvez* (Sitar)

Volume 3 (Code A90015)
MALKAUS - *Hariprasad Chaurasia* (Flute)
MARU BIHAG - *Shruti Sadolikar* (Vocal)
JAIJAIWANTI - *Rajan & Sajan Mishra* (Vocal)

Volume 4 (Code A90016)
NAIKI KANHRA - *Shruti Sadolikar* (Vocal)
DES - *Pandit Jasraj* (Vocal)
DARBARI - *Amjad Ali Khan* (Sarod)

ORDER FORM

No. of Cassettes	Product Code	No. of Cassettes
	A 90009	
	A 90010	
	A 90011	
	A 90012	
	A 90013	
	A 90014	
	A 90015	
	A 90016	

Yes, I would like to place my order for **MUSIC TODAY** cassettes as per details given below. I enclose my crossed cheque/Demand Draft/Copy of Money Order receipt for Rs. _____ (add Rs. 5 for outstation cheques i.e., outside Delhi) payable to **LIVING MEDIA INDIA LTD.**

TOTAL NO. OF CASSETTES ORDERED _____

TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE Rs. _____

Please send my cassettes to

Name _____

Address _____

Pin

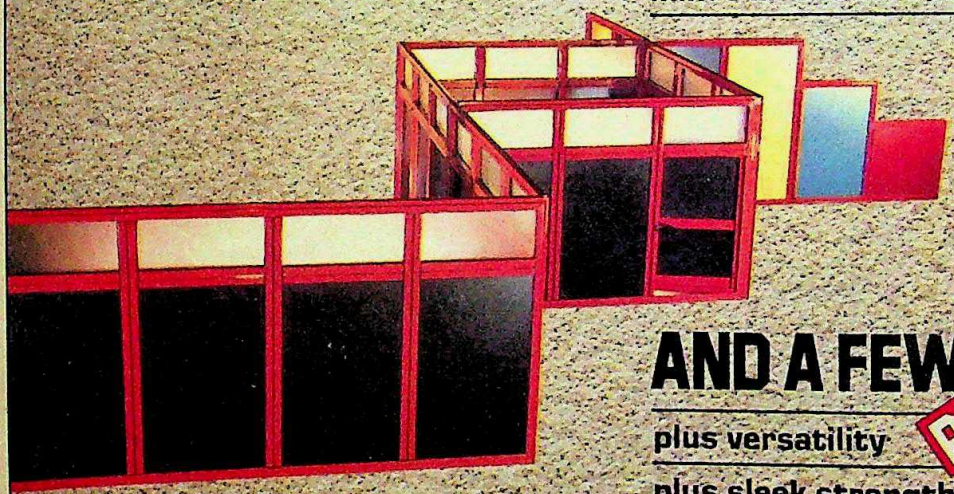
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

AN OFFICE SYSTEM WITH MANY

MINUS POINTS

minus dust
minus noise
minus ageing
minus warping
minus energy loss
minus maintenance
minus installation problems
minus all excuses for inefficiency



AND A FEW

PLUS POINTS

plus versatility
plus sleek strength
plus stunning looks

SECCOLOR SYSTEMS

Partitions, Doors, Windows, Railings

Write for a detailed colour brochure

Seccolor

Seccolor Office Systems, sculpted in steel. Designed in Italy. Perimetrally weather-stripped to seal in energy, peace and efficiency. Prepainted with non-fade, non-peel colours. Pretreated to remain rust-proof for life. Precision engineered to perform perfectly. Absolutely maintenance-free. Strikingly attractive. And surprisingly economical in the long run.

• Choice of 5 colours in profiles • Unlimited choice in panels.

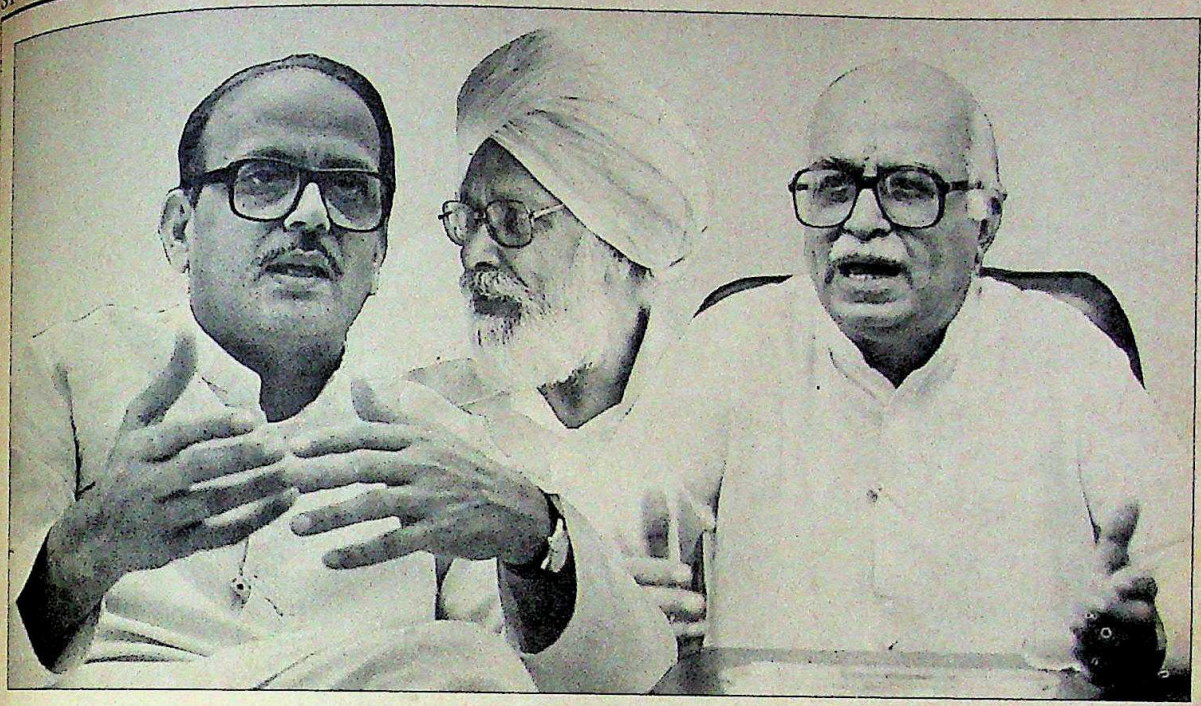
NCL Seccolor Ltd (In collaboration with Industrie Secco S.p.A. of Italy) Raghava Ratna Towers, Chirag Ali Lane, Hyderabad 500 001. Tel: 240562/241769.

Offices: BOMBAY: Tel: 527940; BANGALORE: Tel: 234858; MADRAS: Tel: 8252642; DELHI: Tel: 654041/616887.

Fabricators: AHMEDABAD: Tel: 445969/409012; BOMBAY: Tel: 595973/500827; BANGALORE: Tel: 568979; COIMBATORE; NEW DELHI: Tel: 654041; HYDERABAD: Tel: 242590/895543/236882/236878; MADRAS: Tel: 8252642; VIJAYAWADA: Tel: 74410; VISAKHAPATNAM: Tel: 57020/57796; BHUBANESHWAR: Tel: 57367; CALCUTTA: Tel: 755265.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



V.P. Singh, Surjeet and Advani: divergent views

PUNJAB

End of an Opportunity

By eschewing elections, V.P. Singh has shown lack of political will, and has squandered one more chance of a solution.

"ONE thing I will regret all my life, for which I will not pardon myself, and I publicly acknowledge my mistake, is of not holding elections within six months of the Government coming to power."

—V.P. Singh

THE poignant candour of that statement notwithstanding, the prime minister took no time at all in promptly repeating his unpardonable mistake. All pious assertions were jettisoned, all memories of triumphant rides in open jeeps forgotten as he consigned Punjab to the twilight zone of long-distance, indifferent administration once again.

So the news from Punjab is: status quo, and one more opportunity squandered. That is, no elections, and a continuance of President's Rule. No matter if this militates against Prime Minister V.P. Singh's own promises. No matter if the killings go on mounting—1,506 innocents killed this year already as versus 1,168 last year. No matter if even the few moderate Akalis slowly harden into militant moulds, pushing away still further the chances of any solution. And no matter if the situation in the state continues to deteriorate, and the resentment of the border state's beleaguered people grows as they fail to find a popular channel for venting their many grievances.

No matter, because the considerations for deferring elections once again, as always, have more to do with the practice of power politics than the existing ground realities of Punjab. There will be no elections because none of the central parties wish them to take place, neither the Congress(I), nor the BJP, nor the Left. This is because the current political climate in the state is stacked against them. As for the ruling Janata Dal, it has virtually no electoral stakes in Punjab; even so, the party was split on the question of holding elections though V.P. Singh was in favour of doing so.

In direct contrast, all the Akali parties have been agitating for the electoral process to be restored, and are mincing no words in describing the decision to extend President's Rule in the state as a foolhardy one. Said Sukhjinder Singh of the Akali Dal (Badal): "The Centre is closing the last hopes of a negotiated settlement. We'll have no option but to sit at home or join the militants." Apart from him, Akali Dal (M) President Simranjit Singh Mann was also positively angry. It was "political chicanery", he said, that the Government should have taken refuge behind its allies to scuttle the resumption of the democratic process.

Mann's diatribe was partly merited, for the Government had eroded its bona fides by dithering pathetically on the issue. V.P. Singh had let it be known that he was all for elections, only to flounder on the rock

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

People who make bikes and people who race bikes insist on

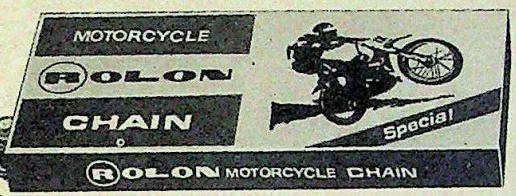
ROLON Special

Race riders. Men who take their bikes to the limits. And further. Manufacturers of motorcycles. Companies who aim for the best quality in their bikes. Both know the importance of fitting the right chain.

ROLON Special

The chain that takes the punishment of rallies and races. The chain that transmits maximum power to the rear wheel. The chain that upholds the reputation of a manufacturer for quality and reliability. The chain that is the largest exported and largest selling.

ROLON Special



LGB Manufactured by: L.G. Balakrishnan & Bros. Ltd.
Ganapathy, Coimbatore 641 006.

ROLON Special

Motorcycle Chain

Gurminder Singh at Sri Perumbudur

LARGEST SELLING PREMIUM BRAND CHAINS

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

of political compulsion.

The prime minister was able to quell the murmurs of protest from within his own party—11 of the 20 members, including Chandra Shekhar stayed away from the Political Affairs Committee meeting—but could not drown out the anti-poll tirade of his allies, the BJP and the Left, which mounted to a crescendo during a series of meetings with them beginning September 9. The BJP President L.K. Advani minced no words, and at a meeting at the prime minister's house on September 18 said the situation was not conducive for elections as the militants would resort to violence to prevent the people from voting freely.

Similarly, Dr Baldev Prakash, vice-president of the BJP, who is based at Amritsar, warned that elections would result in a spurt in terrorist activities and a large scale migration of the minorities. West Bengal Chief Minister and CPI(M) stalwart Jyoti Basu was equally vehement in his criticism of the election move. He asserted that elections should only be held after restoration of normalcy, else it would lead to the demoralisation of the security forces and the administration, and could also result in a situation where the militants seized control of the state Government. Indrajit Gupta of the CPI was the lone voice demanding elections.

But it was the Congress(I) that gave V.P. Singh a harrowing time, playing the prime minister in his own style: manoeuvring with wile and keeping him guessing. It refused to support or oppose the elections, leaving V.P. Singh in a bind, for there was no way in which the minority Central Government could extend the President's Rule without Congress(I) support.

Fully aware of this, Rajiv Gandhi went all out to embarrass the besieged V.P. Singh. As is evident from the four letters he exchanged with the prime minister, Rajiv wanted V.P. Singh to admit that his government had failed to make any headway in Punjab in the last 10 months. One salvo concluded: "Your government announced that it would evolve an alternative policy on Punjab. We have seen none. The key question is not whether elections should be held but whether it is the prime minister's assessment that free and fair elections can be held."

HE Congress(I) wanted the Government to take a stand rather than seek opinions. Explained AICC(I) General Secretary Ghulam Nabi Azad, who visited Punjab thrice in the course of a week, only to find his party rank and file completely opposed to the holding of elections: "In the past, when we have extended our support in favour of legislations V.P. Singh has only turned around and abused us. In this case too, he wanted to be in a position where he could go to the people and say that he was in favour of elections but the Congress(I) opposed it." So the Congress(I) played it cagey, forcing the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs to defer elections. Which almost confirmed the Congress(I) suspicion that V.P. Singh was looking for a shoulder to fire his gun from.

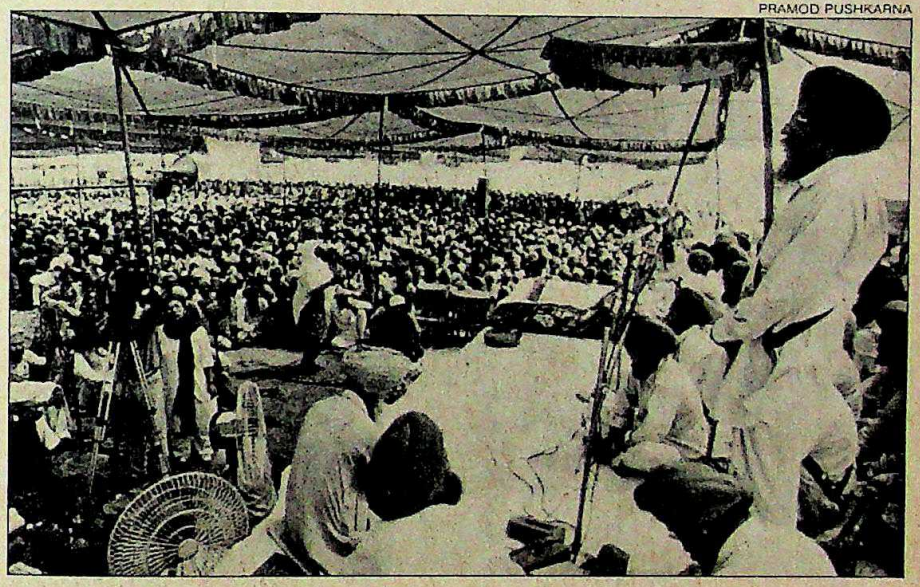
The reluctance of the Congress(I), BJP and the Left to go in for the elections in Punjab is understandable. Since 1980 their base has been shrinking steadily. In the 1985 elections, of the 117 Vidhan Sabha seats, the three parties together captured a mere 39 seats against 78 in 1980. The results of the 1989 Lok Sabha polls were a yet more grim reminder of changing equations in the state, proving an eye-opener even for the moderate Akalis: for of 13 parliamentary seats, the militants and their allies bagged 10.

The BJP in particular has been badly hit by the migration of Hindus—its primary vote bank. A large number of them have left Punjab, and many more have moved from rural areas into the towns and cities of the state, and they are yet to be registered as voters. Moreover, while in the 1981 census the population ratio between Sikhs and Hindus was 52:48, according to the census now being undertaken migration has led to the Sikhs accounting for as much as 68 percent. A fact that must have weighed heavily on the minds of both the BJP and the Congress(I) when they decided to oppose the elections.

But in Punjab what really matters is the Akalis. And the Akalis want elections. The fear is that this may change. Says one senior intelligence officer who had prepared an assessment on the prevailing situation: "At least this time there were takers for democracy. Tomorrow even Badal might say no to elections." In this context it is significant that even Mann, who had talked of plebiscite and elections under UN supervision, had reversed his stand and committed himself to the Constitution, stressing that elections were a constitutional right.

However, the Mann card seems to

PRAMOD PUSHKARNA



he Mann card that the Centre has consistently been unable to twist to its advantage has now been squandered once again.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

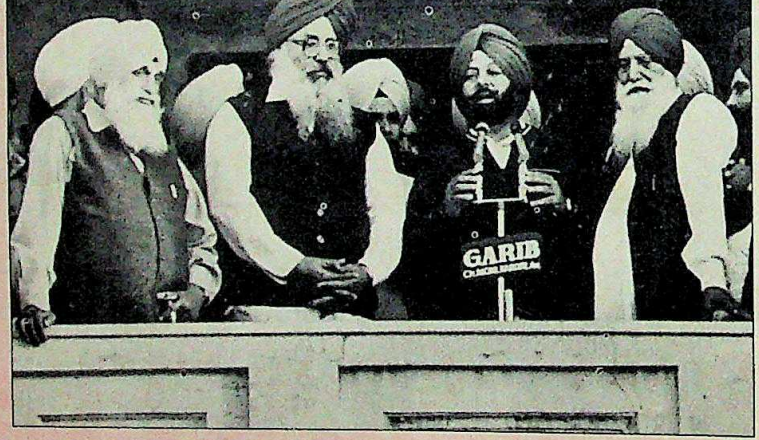
have been wasted by the Centre, and his attitude is only bound to harden with every passing day. And six months from now the BJP-Left fear that the terrorists will ride into the Assembly piggyback on Mann may prove a reality. For as Home Minister Mufti Mohammed Sayeed himself says: "The people by and large are not in favour of Khalistan and President's Rule only leads to alienation of the people." Besides, Mufti must be privy to the secret meetings Mann held with V.P. Singh in which he had assured that no dubious resolution would be passed. He in fact even offered to forge an alliance with the Janata Dal to rule out such a possibility altogether. In exchange Mann sought two things: removal of Chief Secretary S.L. Kapur and DGP K.P.S. Gill.

Yet the fears of those like Surjeet and Basu can't be dismissed so easily. On the law and order front, despite the induction of NSG and the implementation of tough measures, a frightening despondency prevails. On an average about 250 persons are being killed by terrorists every month *(see chart)*. And threats by militants coupled with the fear that they may come to power through elections have demoralised the administration.

According to highly placed sources, one factor that weighed heavily against elections was an intelligence report which said that the Panthic Committee (Sohan Singh) had finalised its strategy of preventing the elections. The report said the elections would be disrupted through attacks on candidates and people would be kept from polling votes through the declaration of a seven-day bandh. Intelligence agencies also fear an increase in violence in the coming days due to the change of guard in Pakistan. One report claims some Panthic Committee (Sohan Singh) leaders met the then chief minister of Pakistan's Punjab, Nawaz Sharif, and Gajinder Singh, chief of Dal Khalsa lodged near Lahore, on June 27 and decided to intensify terrorist activity. Consequently, senior officers of the BSF and CRPF at Amritsar favour a longer tenure of President's Rule.

But Punjab has already seen three-and-a-half years of Central rule, and has little to show for it but a debris of bodies and tainted administrations—the present one of Governor Verma being particularly faceless and uninspiring. New Delhi must go beyond the "economic packages" and the "all-party" meetings, which are just so much hot air. It must take up the long-standing demands before the hardliners calcify into intransigent positions, besides examining the option of talking to militants. And since there is no popular government in the state to involve the people in a political initiative, perhaps the popular government at the Centre should take up the responsibility for doing this. If only to atone for criminally wasting yet another opportunity of bringing succour to the trouble-ravaged state.

—HARINDER BAWEJA with KANWAR SANDHU in Chandigarh



The extension of President's Rule will also make the moderate Akalis increasingly vulnerable to militant rhetoric.

TERRORISM

Spawning Rampant Criminali

ON August 16, two per claiming to be 'Singhs' terrorists are referred to Punjab) came to a house in Raoli village of Jalan They wanted to take away Kulwi Kaur, 18, to verify whether she, a with some other girls, had a character". Her family members told that if the information was co the girls would be punished by 'Singhnis' (women terrorists). Th rorists then attempted to abduct Kulwinder's college mates, Jaswi Kaur, from another farmhouse. T already had with them Narinder K whom they'd abducted a fortnigh Jaswinder recognised one of the a tors and refused to go with them was beaten and then shot dead other two girls were whisked aw

On August 25 they were trace village in adjoining Kapurthala. W the terrorists refused to surrender police used hand grenades. Two o terrorists and Narinder Kaur killed. A surviving Kulwinder told police that they were made to c ammunition through paddy fiel the terrorists shifted from one house to another. Day in and da the girls were sexually abused.

Investigations later revealed one of the assailants, Sukhdev S 'Sansi', was a renegade from a ter group. Since he had absconded two AK-47 assault rifles, eve militants were looking for him second slain kidnapper, A Singh, was a small-time popp dealer. The third, George Masih escaped, is a proclaimed offende case of the abduction of a girl.

The three girls were amo scores of hapless women wh become victims of terrorists in ingly stalking the countrysid ticularly the border districts. per cent of terrorist crime—in robberies, kidnappings and tion—is now confined to villag

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

90 per cent of the victims are Sikhs. On an average a 100 Sikh farmers leave their farmhouses and go to a village or town every month. "The movement has started devouring its own children," said an All India Sikh Students' Federation (Manjit) functionary.

This is because an estimated 90 per cent of terrorist crime is actually being committed by criminals out for personal gain. Two months ago, the Punjab Police prepared a list of politically committed terrorists, and could name only 41—almost the same number as during Ribeiro's reign in Punjab. However, since then there has been a 10 fold increase in the number of terrorists. And it is the criminal elements among the terrorists who have been attacking women for being "immoral" under the garb of a "social reform movement".

RANA JASPAL SINGH

About 90 per cent of the crime is being committed not by terrorists, but by criminals out for personal gain.

Pointing out that criminal elements always take advantage of a terrorist movement, Punjab Police chief K.P.S. Gill, says that the degeneration in the state has been alarmingly swift. Moreover, the period from March to May this year has witnessed the worst ever trans-border traffic on the western border. "During this period the number of AK-47s in Punjab jumped from 700 to about 2,000," according to a state government intelligence report. And a bulk of these have fallen into the hands of criminals.

Akali Dal (M) President, S.S. Mann, however, blames government agencies for the criminalisation of extremist groups. Though this is far too simplistic a view, in 1987-88 the police did rely on criminals to eliminate terrorists. And since Ribeiro's time the administration has always admitted to the presence of a police-terrorist-criminal nexus. This could be a reason for the reluctance to change the system as an elected government might start a clean-up operation.

THE security forces are not alone in being concerned about the increased criminalisation. Even some of the militant groups have been issuing statements against extortionists and others. The Babbar Khalsa has even offered rewards to liquidate criminals. In fact, many of the inter-gang killings are due to the militants' attempt at cleansing their organisations.

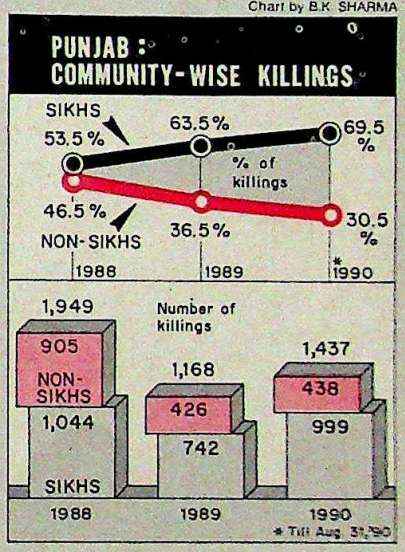
But with militant leaders like Wassan Singh Zafarwal of the Khalistan Commando Force launching a recruitment drive in Gurdaspur district, the criminalisation appears unlikely to stop. Pamphlets circulated by the group offered a monthly salary of Rs 3,000 besides free food, uniform, housing and medical facilities. Reports say that Zafarwal has also launched a *kachi bharti* (temporary recruitment) of youth who get a cut for committing various crimes.

The eulogisation of terrorists by the vernacular press, the various Akali Dal groups' promise of general amnesty, and the Akali Dal (M) leaders' regular attendance at terrorists' *bhog* ceremonies, are the other factors which have encouraged youth without much ideological commitment to take up arms.

An assessment report prepared by the Punjab Government on the four-month-old terrorist group, Khalistan National Army highlights this point. "A broad examination revealed that a few youth hankering for money, adventure and publicity floated this organisation, which is devoid of any ideology. Majority of the new entrants don't have the slightest notion about Khalistan," states the report.

Gill believes that the only way to tackle criminalisation is to arm the police with better weapons. "We should not let them be sitting ducks," he says. But Chanan Singh Sidhu, an Akali Dal(M) leader, says that only a militant-backed government can check the criminals.

Chart by B.K. SHARMA



While the Government and the various Akali groups continue to differ on how to handle the Punjab problem, an underground organisation called the Indian Lions has decided to take the law into its own hands. The "nationalist and anti-terrorist" group—which is believed to have links with a faction of the CPI(ML)—has attacked many pro-militant Sikh leaders in recent months.

With the terrorists running amok, and criminality thriving, vigilante justice is something Punjab's rulers could have certainly done without.

—KANWAR SANDHU

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

TRUSTED EYE CARE

CINERARIA MARITIMA

German Homoeopathic Medicine

NO SIDE EFFECTS

It provides a better nutrition of the Cornea & Lense leading to the regulation of metabolic disorders.

So, physicians & opthamologist all over the world prescribe this to keep eyes healthy and charming.

It saves from painful operation.

SCHWABE

Schwabe CINERARIA MARITIMA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

HARYANA

Comeback Bid

Bansi Lal storms the state

LIKE the proverbial phoenix, Bansi Lal has risen from the ashes of a crushing electoral defeat, and is storming the villages of Haryana once again. In 1987 when he led the Congress(I) to a humiliating rout in the state elections, ekeing a bare five seats in the 90-strong Assembly, no one gave him the whisper of a come-back chance. But three years later, his blitzkrieg through the state is drawing huge crowds. And in the last few months he has covered 12 of the state's 19 districts, addressing public meetings almost every second day.

The former chief minister has timed his campaign shrewdly. Devi Lal and his clan have lost credibility for treating Haryana like a family fief. Moreover, the Congress(I) leadership has been sidelining him. The opportunity is perfect to both fill the leadership vacuum in Haryana and to re-establish his status in the Congress(I).

Significantly, the people are responding to him and not to his party. Consequently, Bansi Lal's use of the Haryana Vikas Manch—a 'rebel' forum he floated in May—as a platform for his political activity is proving fruitful. With most of the state's Congress(I) workers supporting him he has been able to defy the high command's directive to wind up the Manch. In fact, says a Manch activist: "Rajiv Gandhi will only do us a favour by expelling Bansi Lal—he can go to the people with a martyr's halo."

There is enough evidence that Bansi Lal is disdainful of the party leadership. At his rallies no banners proclaim 'Rajiv Gandhi zindabad', nor is there sloganeering in his praise. Even the party tricolour has been replaced by a saffron flag. This is calculated strategy on the 64-year-old Jat leader's part. He knows that while the people are determined to overthrow the Devi Lal family, they do not view the Congress(I) as the alternative. At a rally at Palwal last fortnight, he talked about his record as chief minister without any reference to the Congress(I) or Rajiv Gandhi. The impression he is trying to convey is that the party has become irrelevant in the state.

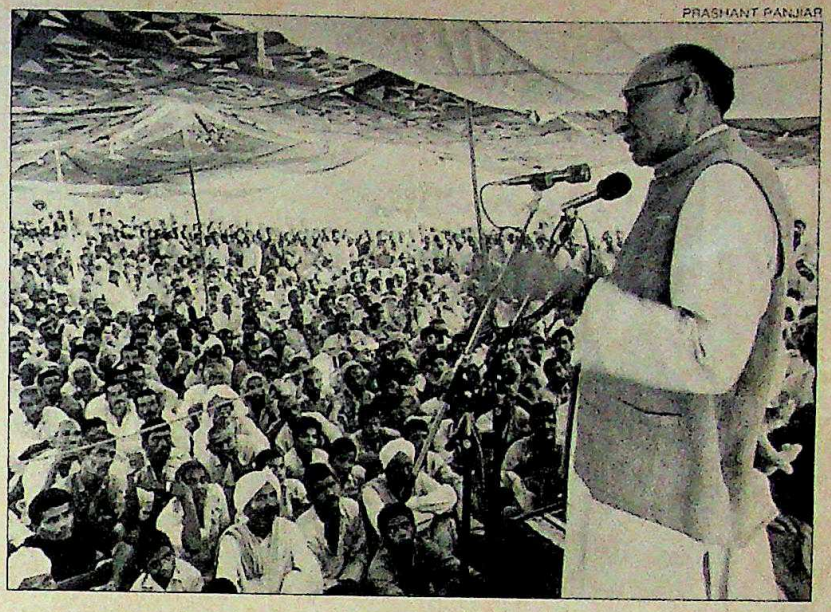
His adversaries use this attitude to draw a parallel with Devi Lal. Says PCC(I) chief S.S. Surjewala: "He is only trying to replace one dynastic rule by another." This is cutting little ice with the people as the popular mood veers towards Bansi Lal, who though autocratic, implemented many development projects during his chief ministership. Some years in the wilderness have also mellowed his abrasive style. He now tells audiences: "You think I'm rude and I don't talk to the people. Unless I was rude the files would've never moved and if I talked all the time there would be no time for work."

Bansi Lal's emergence as a contender for power is also likely to bring about a realignment of forces in the state. Some Janata Dal leaders have already approached him to leave the Congress(I) and pave the way for a winning alliance with the Dal's anti-Devi Lal elements. The shrewd Jat is also in touch with senior BJP leaders. Says BJP spokesman Kishen Lal Sharma: "The possibility of seat adjustment with Bansi Lal in a mid-term election cannot be ruled out if he leaves the Congress(I)." Even the weak Left forces in the state are ready to support him.

The man left in a fix because of all this is Rajiv Gandhi. He is under pressure from the Haryana PCC(I) and Bhajan Lal to expel Bansi Lal. But to get rid of a leader riding a wave of popularity requires both courage and a certain foolhardiness. For with Bansi Lal seemingly unstoppable, it would prove a crippling blow for the already mauled Congress(I) in the state.

—BHASKAR ROY

PRASHANT PANJIAR



Bansi Lal at a rally: independent path

BANSILAL

"They tried to gag me"

Former Haryana chief minister Bansi Lal ventilates his grievances against the Congress(I) central leadership. Excerpts:

Q. ***Haven't you defied your party leadership by refusing to disband your Haryana Vikas Manch?***

A. No. The party constitution doesn't prevent any Congressman from associating with a forum.

Q. ***Despite your current popularity, why haven't you been entrusted with the state party leadership?***

A. Only the high command knows.

Q. ***Is this why you floated the Manch?***

A. That was one reason. The other was that they were denouncing my public meetings and they tried to gag me.

Q. ***Do you foresee a mid-term assembly poll?***

A. Maybe. Though riven, the state Janata Dal factions are all opposed to dissolving the Assembly.

Q. ***Could the Manch become a regional party?***

A. No, not at all.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

KARNATAKA

Locked Horns

Jaffer Sharief attacks Patil

CHIEF Minister Veerendra Patil has not been attacked so strongly even by the Opposition. On September 17, Congress(I) MP and AICC(I) General Secretary C.K. Jaffer Sharief, called a press conference at Bangalore and proceeded to lambast the 10-month-old Patil Ministry.

He charged Patil of lacking dynamism and then went on to allege that power was concentrated in the hands of two cabinet members who were encouraging casteism in the administration. Apart from these charges he added that the Government had failed to maintain law and order. He also suggested that the Congress(I) high command was on his side and sought to play down the chief minister's importance by saying the people had voted for Rajiv Gandhi.

The outburst was expected to signal the beginning of dissidence against Patil. However, in an unusual display of unity, Congressmen in the state closed ranks to voice support for Patil, leaving Sharief out in the cold. To make matters even worse for Sharief, two days later Rajiv Gandhi telephoned Patil and said that he would soon pull up Sharief.

There has been no love lost between Patil and Sharief ever since the Congress(I) rode to power in Karnataka in November last year. Patil has been charting an independent course and ignoring persons like Sharief—who was elected to the Lok Sabha from Bangalore—and PCC(I) President Oscar Fernandes, who also consider themselves heavyweights.

Sharief failed to get any of his men nominated to the Legislative Council or any board and corporation. Moreover, Sharief's wife and sons appealed to the Government to exempt some 25 acres owned by the family from provisions prohibiting construction of residential buildings in the green belt around Bangalore. The chief minister declined. Sharief however denies he attacked Patil because of this episode. Patil meantime is on top of the situation and refuses to be drawn into the slanging match.

—C.B. YESHWANT KUMAR

Politics of Revenge

INSIDE EYE BY INDERJIT BADHWAR

THE most disturbing characteristic of this government is runaway populism: adoption of progressive-sounding policies buttressed by half-truths, silver-tongued oratory, and statistical jugglery in which the wrongs of history are being righted.

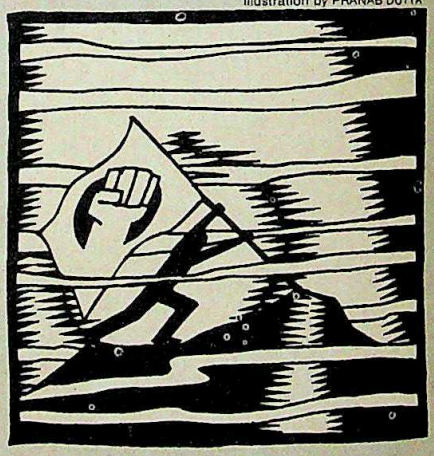
In this atmosphere you have to create the villains as well as the victims. And these are often fraudulent concoctions designed to project the image of the V.P. Singh Government as the only protector of the disadvantaged and dishonoured. The first hapless victim was rural India. Janata Dal demonologists projected urbanites as upper class villains hogging the lion's share of the national wealth and prescribed that 50 per cent of total resources be invested in rural India.

Deprivation is this country's biggest curse, but it does not plague just rural India. Actually, the rural sector—which pays no taxes—had not been doing badly. For example, 70 per cent of the demand for several consumer products of mass consumption comes from villages and small towns, where individual incomes are less than Rs 750 a month.

Similarly, the revival of Mandal was supposed to help another group of victims of history—the so-called backwards. But a close examination of the report shows that its statistical and sociological foundations are untenable. The backwards do not even comprise a cohesive group.

And now, prepare yourself for a new reservations shock. Minister of State for Industry, Srikanta Jena has been hotly pledging the government's determination to reserve the manufacture of major consumer products for the small sector (victim). Big businesses (villain), he fulminates, have let the country down. He excoriates these exploiters by accusing tea companies which buy the product at Rs 7 per kg at auctions, package and then sell it at Rs 80 per kg. Again, this is just drivel. Auction prices have been between Rs 45 and Rs 55, while packed tea sells at about Rs 65.

Illustration by PRANAB DUTTA



His attacks on big businesses also claim that this sector accounts for only 30 per cent of the nation's exports. The right figure however, is closer to 80 per cent. Again, the rhetoric is to justify policies aimed at painting the Government as a champion of the underdog without any rational assessment or cost-benefit analyses of the measures being contemplated.

Other hare-brained ideas include making the right to work a constitutional guarantee and the participation of labour on management boards. Legally enforcing the right to work in the absence of sufficient jobs is senseless. But this too is part of the Mandal syndrome—that the jobless are victims of some imaginary class that has deliberately deprived them of their right to work rather than the result of decades of socialist planning that has stifled initiative and real economic growth in this country.

And, if you can't give the proles more jobs and speedier economic development, or rational labour-management legislation designed to strengthen the process of collective bargaining and promoting industrial peace, then give them a fling in the management boardroom. Good for their egos. Those villainous managers need to be taught a lesson.

It is the politics of revenge, reminiscent, ironically, of the "I'll-show-you-some-day" angry young man of the old Amitabh Bachchan movies.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

What did the Skypak Man say to the girl from Singapore?

"Don't kill me with your charm! I have a job to do..."

We'll deliver. Wherever on earth. SKYPAK The worldwide couriers.

Skypak House, Off M. Vassanji Road, Marol, Andheri (E), Bombay 400 059.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

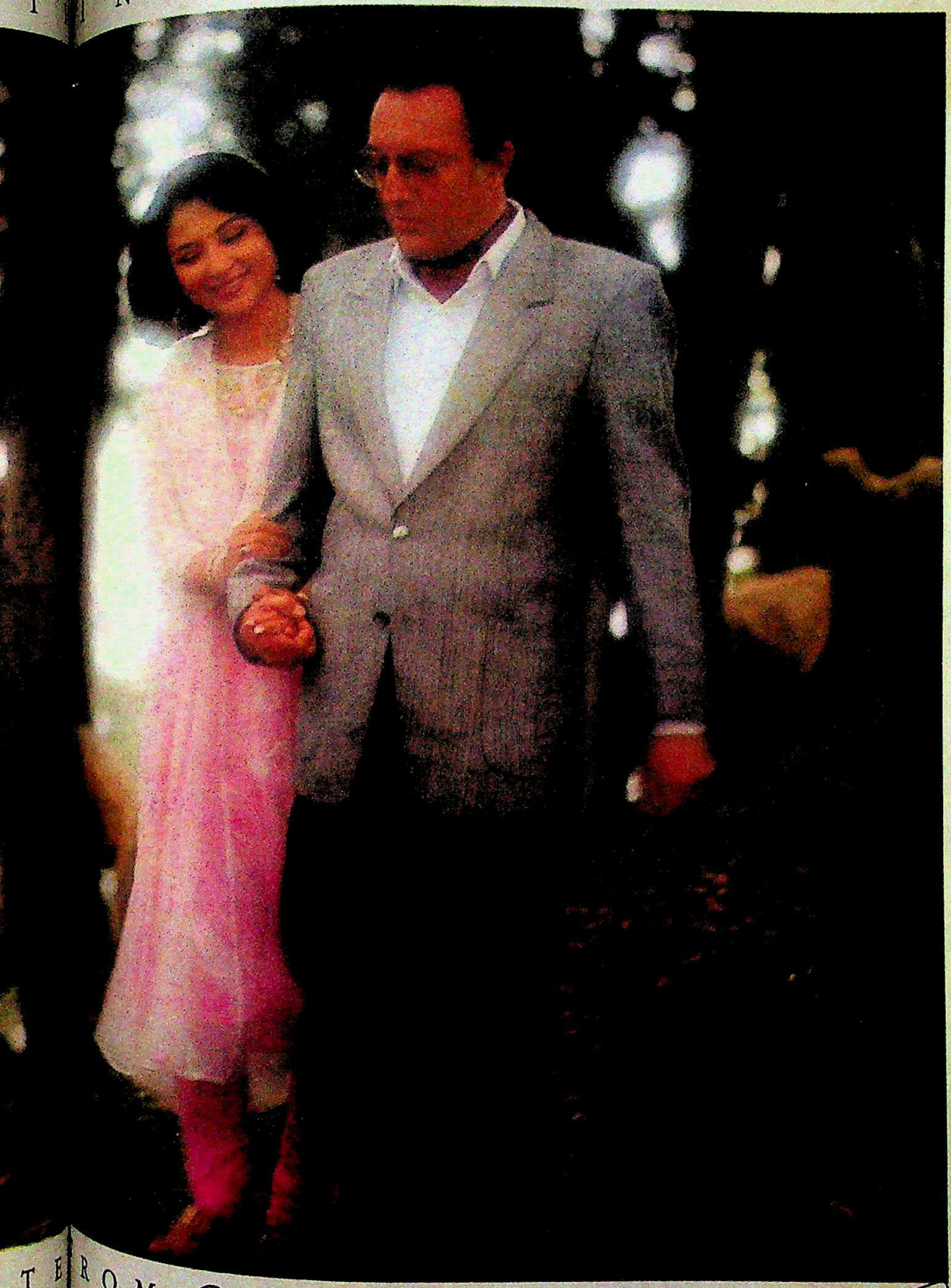
LIKE THE WARMTH

TERENE / WOOL WORSTED

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

T IN YOUR HEART



T E ROM GWALIOR SUITING

GRASIM GWALIOR SUITING
IN A CLASS OF ITS OWN
A PRODUCT OF GRASIM INDUSTRIES LTD.

MAPP-GR-90-1274

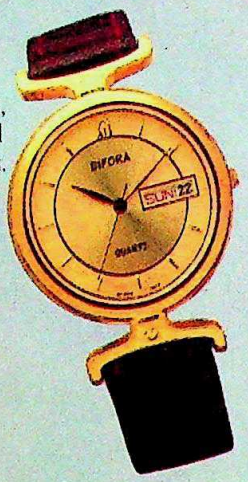
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

American Express,
club class and jet lag.
Model No. 62-9011
Rs. 648.34*

Drucker & Murphy's
Law over burgers and colas.
Model No. 62-8341
Rs. 606.24*

Conferences,
collaborations and
boardroom battles.
Model No. 62-9021
Rs. 602.03*



Presentations,
PCs and endless cups
of black coffee.
Model No. 62-8581
Rs. 667.28*

Bulls,
bears and blue chips.
Model No. 62-8631
Rs. 602.03*

Bifora brings out the best in you

BIFORA
QUARTZ

It's a watch to excel in. Bifora Quartz. Born of excellence. And an impeccable German lineage. With a hardy quartz movement that is a guarantee of perfection. And plating that will flawlessly outlast the years. Sold and serviced throughout the country. Bifora Quartz is from the people who pioneered quartz technology.

Bifora Quartz, with a 2-year confident guarantee.

Your time is your style.

Drafts, project reports
blunt pencils and razor minds.
Model No. 63-8591
Rs. 717.80*

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

* Max. recommended retail price. Local taxes extra.

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

KERALA

Helping Hand

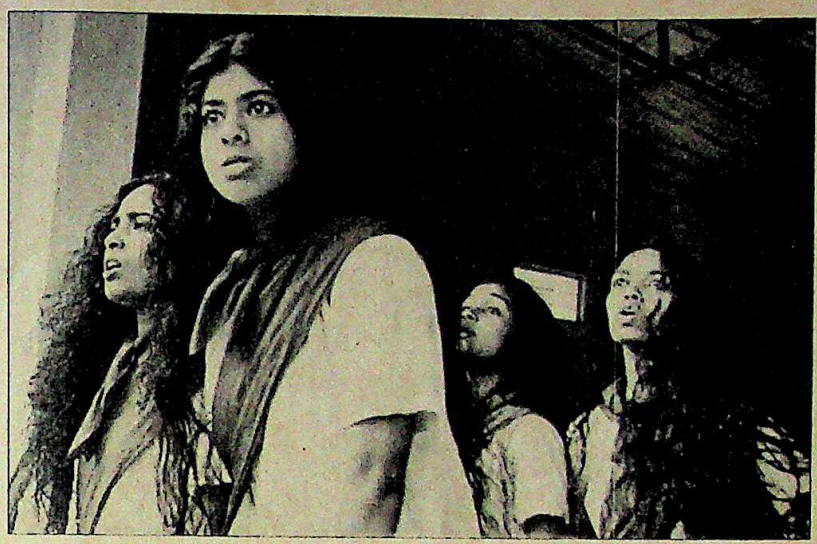
Plaudits for awareness group

FOR over two decades a band of dedicated volunteers has been working selflessly evolving a scientific temper in Kerala. Last fortnight its efforts were internationally recognised as it received the prestigious $ 30,000 King Sejong UNESCO prize for its contribution to creating awareness about science, health, environment and literacy. For the 53,000-member Kerala Sastra Sahitya Parishad (KSSP) it was also a recognition for successfully ensuring 100 per cent literacy in Ernakulam.

Encouraged by the recognition, the parishad is now aiming at total literacy in Kerala. However, literacy was not in the KSSP's original scheme of things when some science writers like P.T. Bhaskara Panickar, M.P. Parmeshwaran and M.N. Subramaniam started the group in 1963. It began with the idea of spreading knowledge of science and a conciousness of social issues.

However, as it expanded its activities, it found literacy a great stumbling block. Points out Shantakumar, one of its former presidents: "We don't just teach the written alphabet. We use literacy classes to talk of science, health and environment."

Funding was another problem, and most of it came by way of donations and royalty from its 400-odd books on science. Yet, by the early '80s it was conducting informal classes among 9,000 groups of schoolchildren. Today it has a children's science magazine *Eureka*, with a circulation of over 50,000. It has also brought out a science encyclopaedia in Malayalam.



Play on women's rights (above); literacy campaign: prime objectives

What began as a 40-member group grew into a mass movement in the '70s. Using street plays, songs and dances, it effectively campaigned against dowry, exploitation of women and pollution. In fact, it even led the movement against the Silent Valley hydro electric project and last year got the Indira Gandhi Environment Prize of Rs 2 lakh for work in this area.

Besides sensitising people to their environment, the parishad is also working to create awareness of the concept of decentralised planning. Observing that panchayats were wasting funds, it is holding classes for panchayat presidents and local leaders on how to make optimum use of resources.

Says activist Rubin D'Cruz: "The movement has succeeded despite its non-political nature because its corner-stone is sacrifice." Also, due to the already high literacy rate in the state people were more willing to listen and learn. But it is essentially the unflinching dedication of the parishad's workers that has shown that independent motivated groups with little resources can achieve what mighty governments cannot. —RAMESH MENON

KARNATAKA

Rapid Relief

FOR three years after she was raped, Jayanthi, 23, waited futilely for her case to be heard in court. Then on August 15, the Karnataka Government set up a special court to deal with crimes against women, and within three days Jayanthi's case was disposed of, her assailant, a 30-year-old milk vendor, sentenced to seven years' rigorous imprisonment.

Judge N.S. Sangolli, 55, who heads this first court of its kind in the country has been chosen for this pioneering effort because of his track record for efficiency. The first judge in the state to write a judgement in Kannada in 1975, he is expected to bring an urgency to proceedings in the women's court. The judge has decided to hear witnesses in a case for a day, keep the next day for hearing statements of the accused and the third day for hearing arguments and pronouncing the verdict.

Of the 140-odd cases transferred to the special court as many as 70 per cent pertain to rape, 20 per cent to dowry deaths, and the rest to abduction. Most of the victims belong to the poorer sections of society.

Though Sangolli's judgements can be challenged in higher courts, the setting up of the special court has raised great hopes. Because apart from the quick disposal of cases, the courts will focus attention on larger social issues. That is unless customary political interference and sloth undo it all.—C.B. YESHWANTH KUMAR

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

WEST BENGAL

Panic Station

Problems bedevil the CPI(M)

STUNG by trenchant criticism of its functioning, successful opposition bandhs and clear evidence of loss of popular support, the CPI(M) in West Bengal pressed the panic button last fortnight. In Burdwan district alone, it purged around 600 party members. Thousands of others were denied renewal of their memberships. And party sources indicated that more purges were on the way.

Simultaneously, the CPI(M)-led Left Front Government took steps to tone up the administration. To counter criticism that the law and order situation in the state had deteriorated, former CBI director A.P. Mukherjee was brought back to the state as director-general of police. Plans were also made to improve the power situation.

In public, the CPI(M) still maintained a brave face. Anil Biswas, state committee member and editor of the party mouthpiece *Ganashakti*, admitted there was some resentment among the people. "But there is no crisis as such," he said. "Even the resentment is more the result of propaganda than genuine grievances."

Few would go along with that. Says CPI leader Indrajit Gupta: "The Left Front is no longer the cutting edge in the hands of the proletariat." One clear proof of the people's resentment is the success of the bandhs called by the Congress(I) and the Socialist Unity Centre of India, a fringe left group.

Another sign of popular disenchantment with the Government is that Chief Minister Jyoti Basu, hitherto immune from criticism, has drawn his own share of flak. To make matters worse, Basu seemed to have been afflicted by a specially severe case of foot-in-the-mouth syndrome.

Justifying the police firing in Calcutta last month, Basu commented that the agitators appeared to prefer a "non-vegetarian" movement. Nobody was amused. Earlier, Basu had embarrassed the Left Front by announcing that he would let loose CPI(M) boys to counter the Congress(I) on the street. And when he claimed that the bandhs called by the Opposition had failed, he only eroded his own credibility.

The attacks by the Opposition might have been blunted if the CPI(M) itself was united. It is not. A senior leader confided that some ministers are not on talking terms with each other, and many party members secretly agree with the party's critics. Worse, a clear ideological divide is emerging, with an important section opposed to Basu's wooing of industrialists like the Ambanis, the Goenkas and the Tatas.

Leading the attack is Ashok Mitra, eminent economist and former state finance minister. Most capitalists, Mitra argues, depend on finance provided by public-sector financial institutions and have fairly dismal track records in managing their own industries. And yet, he says, "some misguided leftists", an apparent reference to Basu, suffer from a sense of inferiority and court these industrialists.

Mitra also questions the claims made by the Government on the education front. Basu has been proudly pointing out that the education budget has gone up from Rs 119 crore to Rs 1,559 crore over the last 13 years. All very well, says Mitra. But 92 per cent of the amount goes to pay wages while less than Rs 10 per student per month are spent on building of schools, repairs, textbooks and so on. Mitra says that under the Left Front the edifice of education has all but collapsed.

Mitra's outbursts are only the most obvious manifestation of the snowballing dissent within the CPI(M). Many want the Left Front to distance itself from the National Front Government at the Centre. Others target the lifestyle of many new leaders, which is in sharp contrast to the austere image of older party members. A senior member goes so far as to say that the party deserved to lose an election if that was the only cure for reforming itself.

Losing an assembly election—the next one is due in 1992—is really not such a far-fetched possibility. In the past three elections, the Congress(I) polled around 40 per cent of the votes. The CPI(M) polled 2-3 per cent less but the combined strength of the left parties pulled them through.

So far, it is mainly the fractured state of the Congress(I) in West Bengal that has hampered its progress. If the party manages to set its own house in order, it could easily make a serious bid for power. That may be some time coming, but with its recent successful bandh and with another Bengal bandh called on November 26, it is all set to resume the battle in right earnest.

—UTTAM SENGUPTA

Photographs by SAIBAL DAS

Protesting CPI(M) leaders (left); and Congress(I) workers

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

SIEMENS

Fascinating Assets

An important if largely unseen, component of 'Siemens Quality' is its people. People whose skills and talents have been carefully polished so they can realise their multifaceted potential.

Training and development is an on-going commitment at Siemens. The sophisticated, advanced training centre at Andheri, Bombay challenges the cream of engineering talent to better their own performance. Even more heartening are the results of intensive training programmes at Siemens factories where operators emerge with sharper skills, improved confidence and a clearer vision of their jobs.

Investing in the individual is a statement of purpose that translates into a day-to-day commitment.

Siemens sets the standard in a wide range of products, systems and projects. These include control and automation systems, railway signalling equipment, medical electronics, switchgear, switchboards, drives and motors, turnkey projects or new dimensions in telecommunications.

A deep commitment to developing its most important 'products'–its people–gives. Siemens an edge–that sharp edge of quality.

Siemens Ltd.,
P.O. Box 6597, Bombay 400 018

Siemens
Where international technology meets human needs

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

The State of Essen's Art...

As you ca
rather the C
matters. Esp
talking 'state-
constant em
quality, cont
ment, and
depth unders
needs. We've
10 years
totally integra
capability, link

INTE
FORINSTA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

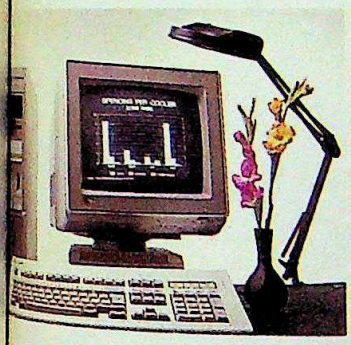
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

O.E.M. Supplier to:

HCL, Wipro, Uptron, Hinditron, OMC, Digital, Sterling, Blue Star, Godrej...

Collaborators:

C-ITOH, Samsung, TOEI, Emulex, Faraday...



As you can see, the company, or rather the Companies you keep, it matters. Especially when you are talking 'state-of-the-art'. It means a constant emphasis on priorities : quality, continual product development, and of course an in-depth understanding of customer needs. We've nurtured this, over 10 years now, building a totally integrated manufacturing capability, linking with the most progressive international names, and fostering confidence as supplier to India's biggest computer names.

So, why ESSEN could mean so much to you henceforth, is essentially because...

WE MAKE EVERYTHING...

Under one truly hi-tech roof. Small components to final systems. Painstakingly manufactured with simply the finest equipment. Result : 'zero-defect' products.

FOR ALMOST EVERYONE.

You've seen the names - India's biggest, most respected. To top it, quality biased set-ups like BHEL, L&T Group, Dept. of Space, Ministry of Defence, Bajaj Auto, all form part of our customer list.

INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIONS.

C-ITOH, Faraday, TOEI, Samsung, Emulex... all internationally acclaimed. All ESSEN'S collaborators. Keeping ESSEN at the cutting edge of computer technology.

YOU WANT IT? WE'VE GOT IT.

From PC's to Advanced Computer Systems. Tomorrow's VMX (Voice Message Exchange). And the latest breakthrough - Parallel Processing! Only from ESSEN.

And what's most reassuring is, we know what a relationship means. With our people, to make the best possible product. And you, to give you what you need, right through your computer's life span. Support.

ESSEN COMPUTERS

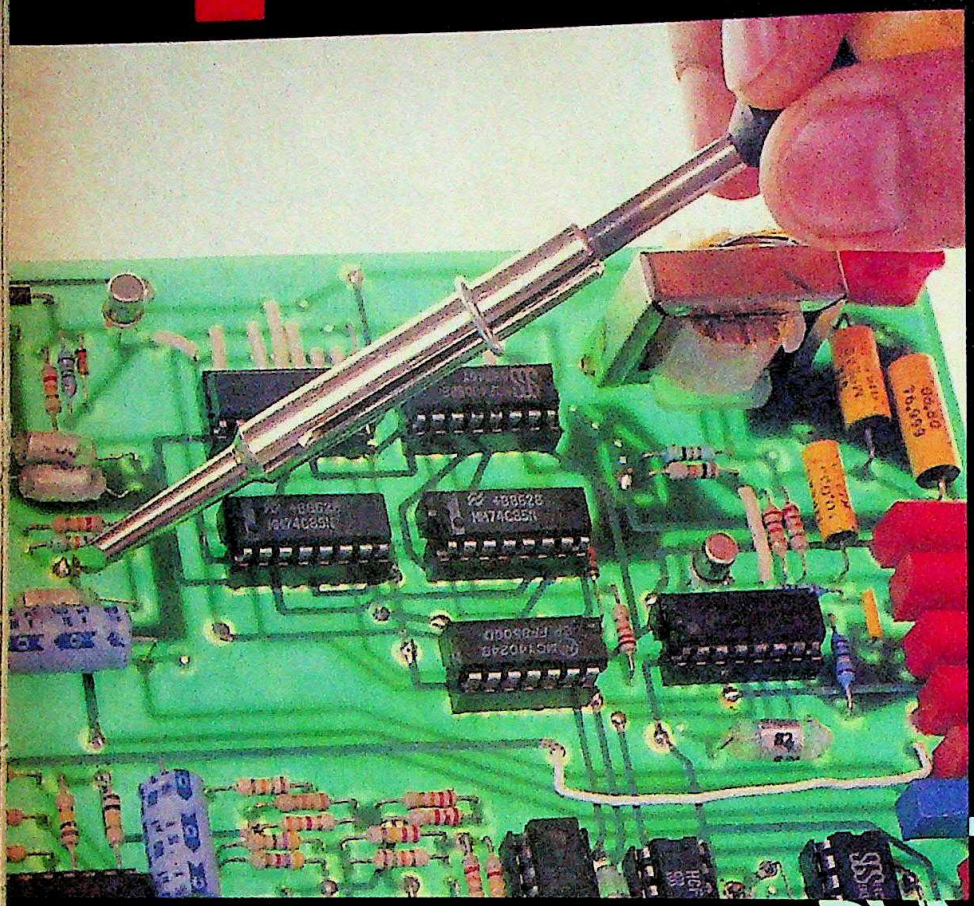
ESSEN COMPUTERS LTD.
Gandhinagar 382 015, Gujarat.
Phone : 21606, 21607, 21608, 21609, 21611.
Telex: 120-3226 ESSN IN
Fax: (91-2712) 21612.

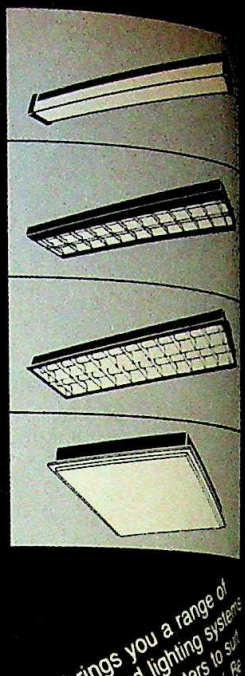
INTEGRAL. INDISPENSABLE. THE VERY ESSENCE.

FOR INSTANT INFORMATION TELEPHONE : Bangalore : 217004. **Baroda :** 0175-511 (Telex). **Bombay :** 6344326, 6327805, 6345495. **Delhi :** 5710853. **Madras :** 474985. **Pune :** 661898. **Secunderabad :** 821321.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Interact EC 334 A





Bajaj brings you a range of luminaires and lighting systems. Designed by computers to suit virtually every lighting need. Be it for industries, commercial institutions or street lighting.

When you're working within 'zero-error' tolerances improper lighting could mean the difference between success and failure...

TRUST BAJAJ

Each made to our own demanding standards. As well as to the stringent specifications of the Bureau of Indian Standards, Commission Electrotechnique Internationale and of other international organisations.

For our advisory service on lighting and/or lighting installation design, write to General Manager (Lighting), Bajaj Electricals Limited, 51, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Bombay 400 023., or contact our nearest regional branch.

bajaj group

bajaj

bajaj LUMINAIRES

Spreading Light—Sci...

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

MODI MURDER CASE

Curious Turn

Ameeta-Sanjay absolved

It proved a premature denouement. Even before the country could settle down to watch the build-up to the climax, the cause celebre was over. Or almost. For, last fortnight in his judgement on framing of charges against the seven accused in the Syed Modi murder case, Lucknow District and Sessions Judge O.P. Pradhan permitted the trial of five. But it was the exoneration of the two—Ameeta Modi and Sanjay Singh, accused of an illicit relationship which spawned a conspiracy to murder Syed Modi—that was significant.

The 67-page judgement puzzled many. It not only let off the main accused but also summarily threw out a case the CBI had laboured on for nearly two years. It also created the oddity of putting five persons on trial for committing a murder without any motive. The motive of the case revolved around Sanjay and Ameeta's extra-marital dalliance. CBI counsel S.G. Samant had spent a week trying to prove it was this that lead them to plot the murder with Akhilesh. And though legal experts say the presence of a motive is not essential while trying a murder case, the CBI will now have to either prove the five accused were psychopathic killers or come up with a new theory to link them to the murder.

The conspiracy case against Sanjay and Ameeta was based largely on circumstantial evidence. The mainstay of the CBI case was the material collected by them to prove a "motive". But the judge observed: "Almost every human being is exposed to motives all the time in his wakeful state and yet only a few succumb to motives and commit crimes." To establish a motive, the prosecution had relied on three letters written by Ameeta's mother Pushpa Kulkarni in 1984, seven letters from Ameeta to Sanjay in 1985, and Ameeta's diary entries of 1985 and 1986. They also documented five letters written by Modi to Ameeta. Of these, four were written during the period of their engagement in 1984, the fifth was an undated, unposted letter in which he threatened suicide.

The judgement ruled that though at best this evidence indicated an extra-marital relationship between Sanjay and Ameeta, there was no indication that they wanted Modi eliminated. Examining the letters written by Ameeta to Sanjay, the judge concluded the first four "disclose a harmonious relationship between Modi and Ameeta". He noted: "These letters indicate a normal sex life between Modi and Ameeta, who does feminine chores for Modi and prays for his success."

The judge also contended that the prosecution had relied on stray parts of Ameeta's diary to build up its case of an extra-marital relationship. He also observed that the CBI counsel had "conveniently glossed over those parts of the diary which display the real attitude of Sanjay and Ameeta towards Modi and of Modi towards Sanjay and Ameeta". Here, the judge quoted an entry of January 1986 when Modi was to play a prestigious match against Vimal Kumar. Ameeta wrote: "Had an awful night as far as sleep was concerned.... The agony of having lost and the anxiety of Modi's match against Vimal was practically eating me...whilst he slept, I really prayed...."

The judge quoted other parts of the diary to disprove the CBI theory. One was: "We made *khichdi*, which was really yum for a first attempt. We were happy and made love before we went into deep slumber clinging to each other. Now this would have continued, had Modi not to go to Patiala." The judge noted: "Despite her illicit intimacy with Sanjay, Ameeta's love and attraction for Modi had not diminished." Judge Pradhan ruled that the pre-crime and post-crime conduct of Ameeta and Sanjay did not indicate any abnormal behaviour which could create even a suspicion of conspiracy.

The evidence against the other five accused needs to be examined in the course of a trial, the judgement indicates. The main evidence is possession of the murder vehicle—a white Maruti van—by Akhilesh, and his association with the others—Amar Bahadur, Bhagwati, Ballai and Jitendra—the statements of witnesses against them, and the recovery of the murder weapon from Akhilesh's men.

Yet the mystery has only deepened. Clearly, someone wanted Modi dead. Akhilesh and the four co-conspirators seem to have no logical motive for the crime. And with Sanjay and Ameeta absolved, the question of who else could have conspired to murder Modi has become an even more unanswerable one.

—DILIP AWASTHI

Photographs by R.K. GUPTA

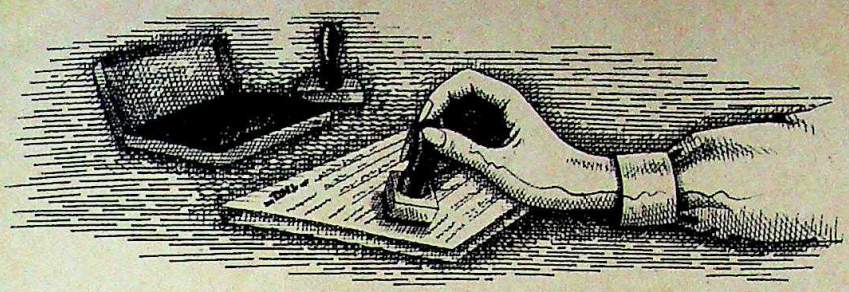
Sanjay amid jubilant supporters (left); and Ameeta with brother

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

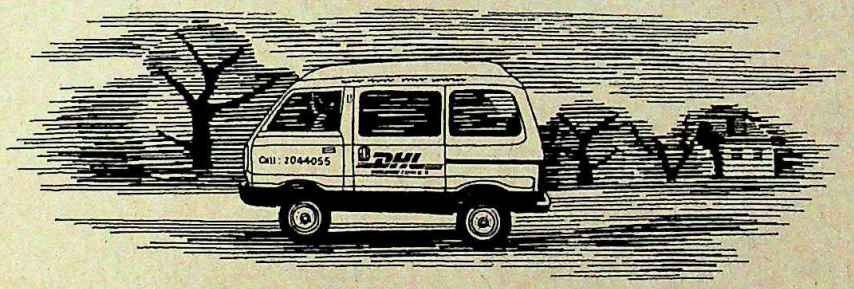
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



FROM EASY CUSTOMS CLEARANCE,

TO PROMPT DESPATCH,



TO RAPID TRANSIT AND DELIVERY.

WE TAKE IT DOOR-TO-DOOR EVERYTIME.

STILL THINK WE'RE JUST A COURIER COMPANY?

RAKA:3150:C:90

21 years ago, we pioneered the air express industry. Since then, through a network spanning over 180 countries, we've become the fastest, most reliable way of delivering packages and documents worldwide. We offer you one door-to-door service, one all-inclusive invoice, and one truly global network. You can depend on the dedication of over 20,000 professionals, supported by over 7,000 vehicles and aircraft. So if you have any packages and documents that need to be in safe hands from beginning to end, call us for an immediate pick-up.

We are listed in the Yellow Pages/Telephone Directories.

DHL
WORLDWIDE EXPRESS®

DHL. THE COURIER DIVISION OF AIRFREIGHT LIMITED.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ORISSA

Rivals Rise

Biju Patnaik is challenged

BIJU Patnaik may be still straddling Orissa like a colossus, but many a contender has begun to hack at his feet. Not that the tall chief minister is wavering. Last fortnight, he locked horns with one such claimant to the throne, Union Minister of State for Petrochemicals, Bhajaman Behera, who had criticised Patnaik for opposing the Mandal Commission recommendations.

When Behera decided to visit Orissa, and his constituency in the state, Dhenkanal, Patnaik told the Home Department to shoot off a telex to New Delhi, asking Behera to cancel his trip, for it would incite the anti-reservationists to violence. Behera however chose to ignore the injunction, and stuck to his itinerary, only to find the customary red carpet missing.

Not only did that result in a rough trip for the minister, but it also brought to the fore the political machinations bedevilling the state's politics. While the powerful chief minister was trying to snub a rival, who had dared to stake a claim to political prominence, the ambitious Behera of the erstwhile Jan Morcha was trying to steal the thunder from Patnaik, and present himself as the true leader of the masses. Behera even told newsmen that all those who opposed reservations ought to be thrown out of the party.

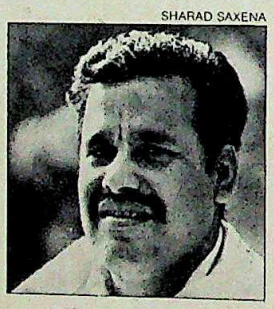
Simultaneously, Srikant Jena, the other Union minister of state from Orissa, was also engaged in a confrontation with Patnaik. A one-time aide of the chief minister, Jena is currently taking potshots at Patnaik, grudging his mentor's reluctance to groom him as the heir-apparent. In a display of political opportunism, like Behera, Jena has also thrown his weight behind reservations to try and emerge as the spokesman of the backward classes. Says a Janata Dal MLA: "Under the garb of people's issues, the war of succession has begun."

Jena fell out with Patnaik not very long ago when his efforts to consolidate a power base received a serious setback when Patnaik inducted several heavyweights into the Cabinet like Bhagabat Behera, Sarat Kar and Damodar Rout, whom Jena had earlier succeeded in keeping away.

Since then Jena has been trying to score debating points over his estranged mentor. Recently angry words were traded over the provision of one lakh jobs for educated youths.

PRAMOD PUSHKARNA

SHARAD SAXENA



Patnaik (top); and Jena: locking horns

But as much as anyone else, Patnaik has to take the flak for the current round of intra-party tensions. The chief minister has constantly been shuffling favours among the claimants to his legacy in order to keep them at loggerheads. The first cabinet team was stacked with Jena's men; at the time of expansion Jena was ignored and his arch rivals given prized berths. Finance Minister Ramakrishna Patnaik was initially projected as the second-in-command, but a few months later was reduced to the minister for rural development. The current blue-eyed boy of the chief minister in the Cabinet is Bijoy Mohapatra, the minister for irrigation.

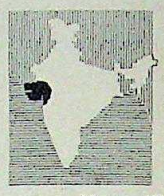
Of course, there is method in Patnaik's madness. By playing one against the other, the chief minister has succeeded in driving a wedge within the powerful triumvirate of Jena, Mohapatra and the Housing Minister, Nalini Mohanty. Earlier, Patnaik's manoeuvrings had robbed the trio of a powerful ally—Ashok Das, MLA from Korei, whom Patnaik made the working president of the state Janata Dal. Das is now the leader of a distinct faction. Others like Sarat Kar and Damodar Rout have also been attempting to raise their own pressure groups in the party.

Clearly, though Biju remains the master of all he surveys, the rites of succession are on. —RUBEN BANERJEE

GUJARAT

Patel Power

Community rules the roost



BIRTH certificates have suddenly acquired a new meaning country-wide, but in the Gujarat Janata Dal they seem to be enjoying a special significance. Here, Chief Minister Chimanbhai Patel appears to have set up certain criterion: primarily, be a Patel and earn privilege. Says Janata Dal leader and former IPS officer Jaspal Singh: "I wish I was born in a Patel family. As Jashbhai Patel, I would have been a cabinet minister today."

Jaspal Singh's lament is based on sound statistics. Of the 19 district Janata Dal units in the state, as many as 14 are headed by Patels. Last fortnight, state party chief Narpatsinh Chavda, a staunch supporter of Chimanbhai through whom the chief minister runs party affairs, appointed two district unit presidents—both Patels. Of the 10 party leaders recently appointed as chairmen of various state government-controlled corporations, five are Patels and three Brahmins. Muslims, Harijans and OBCs simply don't figure in Chimanbhai's scheme of things. Says Liladhar Vaghela, a top

Chimanbhai: upper caste tilt

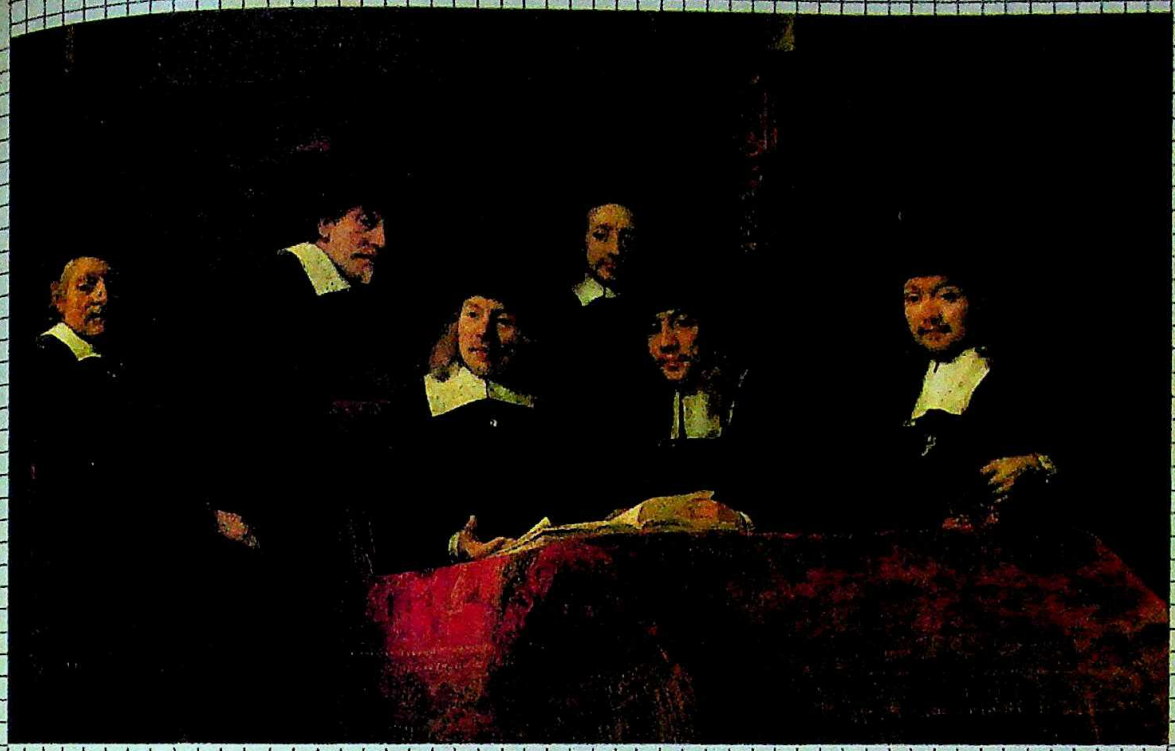
PRAMOD PUSHKARNA

OBCs' leader and a Janata Dal MLA: "The chief minister is doing irreparable damage to the party's image."

This is more so because his stance appears to be at a variance with that of his party at the Centre. While V.P. Singh is trying to project the Janata Dal as the sole protector of the interests of the backward classes, Chimanbhai appears to be making his state unit a bastion of the economically powerful and largely anti-Mandal Patels. And

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



Club Select

A tribute to the fine art of conducting business

Rembrandt captured on canvas, the rich hues of business life in bygone days. Now Club Select at Hotel Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza recreates the same magnificence for the business managers of today.

The master strokes are unmistakable... in the two floors of deluxe rooms and suites; in the state-of-the-art business centre; the exclusive Club Select reception; and the luxurious Club Select lounge... creating an altogether select environment, a perfect complement to your style.

Club Select has been designed with business artistes like you in mind. Every little detail has been carefully considered. The result is a contemporary classic, that pays a rich tribute to the connoisseurs of business.

Holiday Inn
CROWNE PLAZA®
NEW DELHI

Barakhamba Avenue, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110 001. Tel : 3320101 Telex : 031-61186 HIND IN Telefax : 3325335/3316163

Bombay Instant Reservation & Sales Office

607, Tulsiani Chambers, 6th Floor, Nariman Point, Bombay-400 021. Tel : 2873050, 231764 Telex : 0118-3300 HICP IN

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

The World's First Choice

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

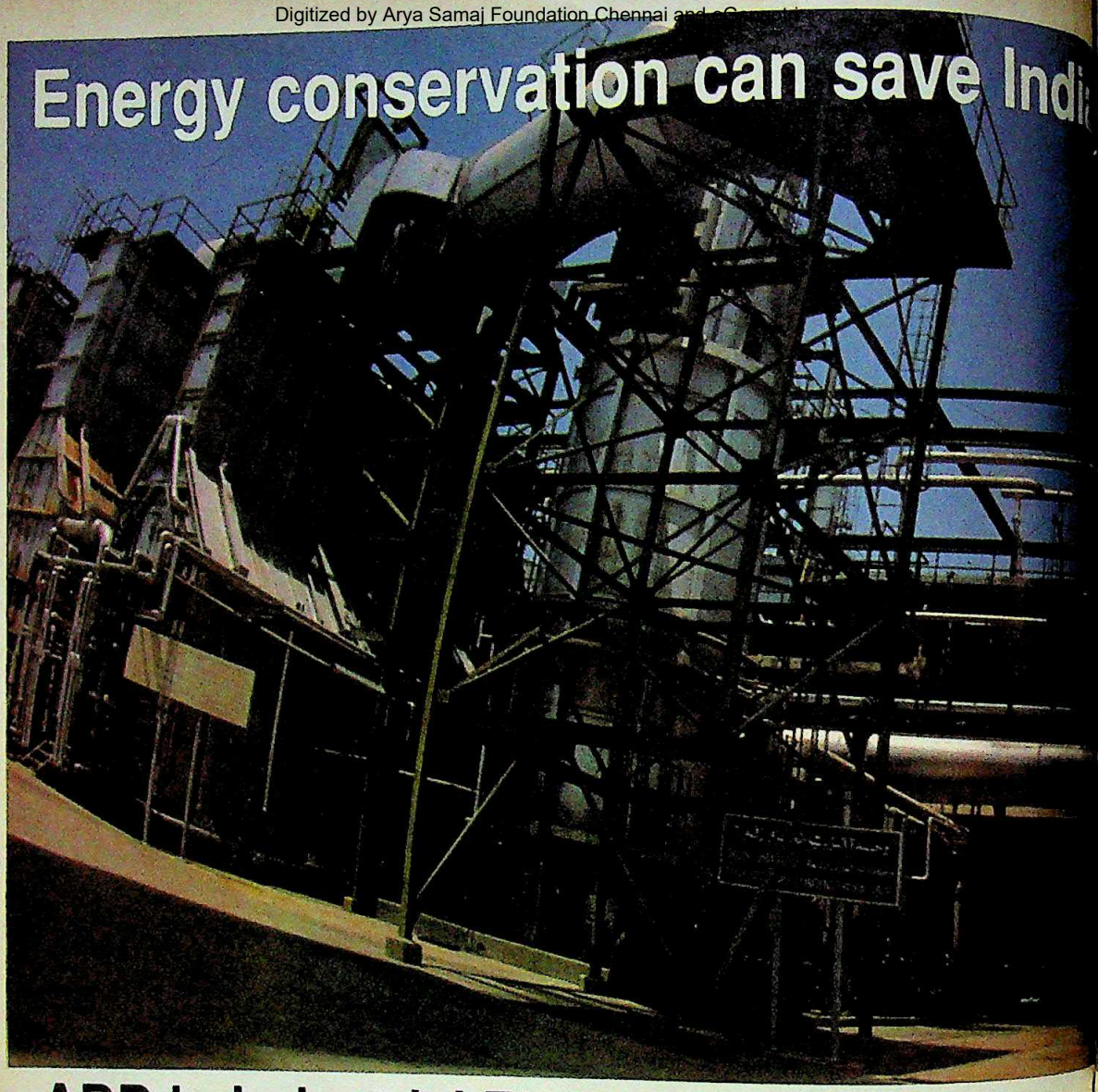


ABB in Industrial Electronics. Technology to optimise energy utilisation.

Optimal energy utilisation through integrated automation. Technology that ensures a higher yield of better quality through more efficient operation.

Asea Brown Boveri pioneered the integrated automation of the sugar industry in India.

Process controls from ABB have also maximised production in cement, fertiliser and paper industries.

Variable speed drives from ABB help optimise the utilisation of energy.

ABB has the leading edge to meet the needs of core industries. With advanced technologies, resources and skills in Industrial Electronics.

ABB. Powered by the international merger of two electrical engineering giants. Asea and Brown Boveri. Providing ABB India with privileged access to technology advances worldwide.

- Power Generation
- Power Transmission
- Power Distribution
- Industrial Electronics
- Industrial Equipment and Systems
- Transportation
- Telecommunications

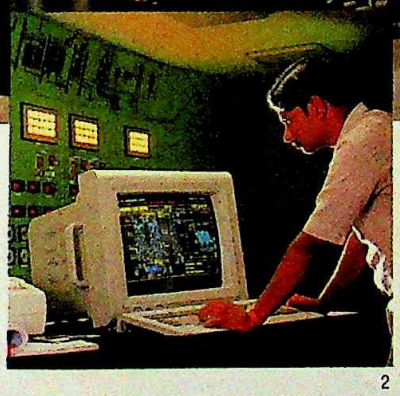
ABB. THE WORLD'S LARGEST ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING GROUP.

Asea Brown
Sona Towers,
Bangalore 56
Tel : (0812)-2
Telex : 0845-6
Fax : (0812)-2

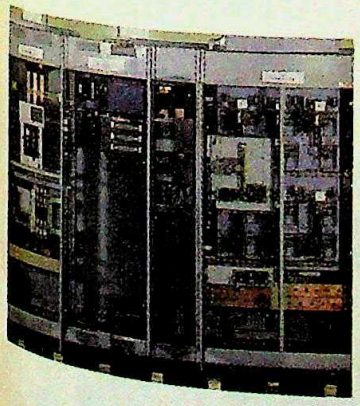
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

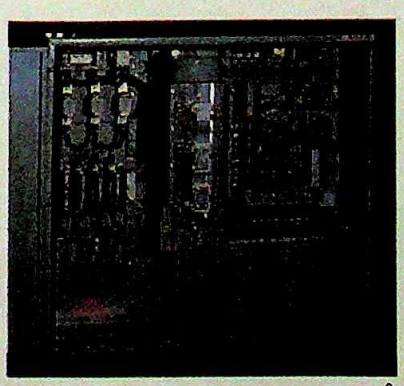
Rs.1800 crores every year.



2



1



3

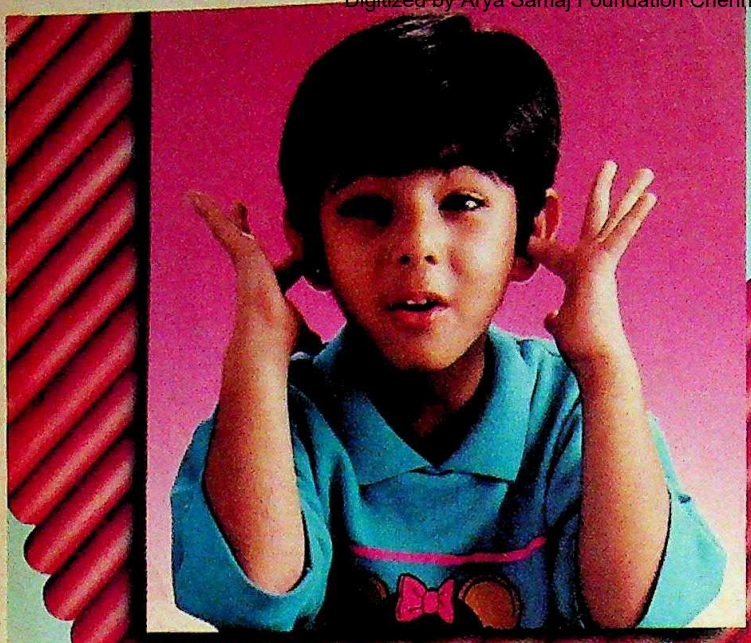
1. TYRAK 8A DC Drive
2. ABB Master at Mysore Cement
3. ASTAT Crane Control

Asea Brown Boveri Limited
Sona Towers, 71, Miller Road
Bangalore 560 052
Tel : (0812)-266315
Telex : 0845-8394 ABBL IN
Fax : (0812)-264147

ABB
ASEA BROWN BOVERI

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



On Diwali day, lend your ears to these catchy numbers:

Knock-out Bangs. Hydrogen Bombs. Dirty Dozen. Thunder and Rainbow. Flower Bomb. Fire Barrel. And many others. All from Standard Fireworks.

"STANDARD"
FIREWORKS

THE SOUND OF MUSIC!

Lending colour and sparkle to the country.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

though the Patels and other upper castes have always run the state's politics—except after Madhavsinh Solanki became chief minister in 1976—their dominance has never been as overwhelming as at present.

This is causing a lot of heart-burn among the non-Patel and backward class lobby in the party. Particularly since the Patels constitute just 20 per cent of the state's population, while the SCs, STs, OBCs, and Muslims make for nearly 75 per cent. The Muslims are especially angry. They voted handsomely for the Janata Dal in the assembly polls, even though all the 10 Muslim candidates of the party lost. Now, lacking a member in the ministry for the first time ever, and ignored by Chimanbhai, they are sullen.

Predictably, Chimanbhai's bias has also put merit at a disadvantage. Illustrative of this are a few recent appointments. Among them that of a building contractor and party leader, Jayantibhai Raoji Patel, as chairman of the Gujarat Housing Board, which is notorious for rampant corruption, thanks to the influence of contractors.

The chief minister's Patel bias has also kept him from adopting a pro-Mandal stance. By toeing the Patel line, Chimanbhai has so far succeeded in containing the anti-reservationists. But this may soon boomerang on him, as the OBC leaders of the state Janata Dal are convening a massive rally in Ahmedabad next month to pressure Chimanbhai into implementing the Mandal recommendations in Gujarat.

Chavda defends Chimanbhai, saying: "He is rewarding only those party workers who stood by in its bad days. That they belong to a particular caste is a sheer coincidence." Spoken like, well, almost a Patel.

—UDAY MAHURKAR

BOTTOMLINE BY D. BUNKER

Made For Each Other

THE Made For Each Other contest sponsored by a well-known cigarette company was a singular (sic) success. Now, the formula has filtered down to other organisations who see the market ripe for a new version of the contest, modified to include couples of more contemporary relevance and popular appeal. One such organisation is OPEC (Organisation for Popular Exposure of Couples) which is keen to revive its sinking fortunes with a new, war-footed campaign. Here's the list of contestants for the grand finale.

Saddam Hussein and I.K. Gujral: The embrace that shook the world. The fact that Gujral was the first foreign VIP to meet Hussein after the invasion of Kuwait shows the closeness of the relationship. The fact that Baghdad subsequently snubbed Indian diplomatic concerns—without a peep of protest from New Delhi—shows that despite being between Iraq and a hard place, the relationship survived. Nominated for being the couple with the hottest clinch.

Ameeta Modi and Sanjay Singh: Their in-court and off-court relationship has shuttled them into the position of being favourites to win the contest. The salacious snippets in amorous Ameeta's diary are sure to impress the jury while Sanjay's sticking by her through the ordeal gives them a deadly edge over the competition. Nominated for being the best mixed doubles pair in the country.

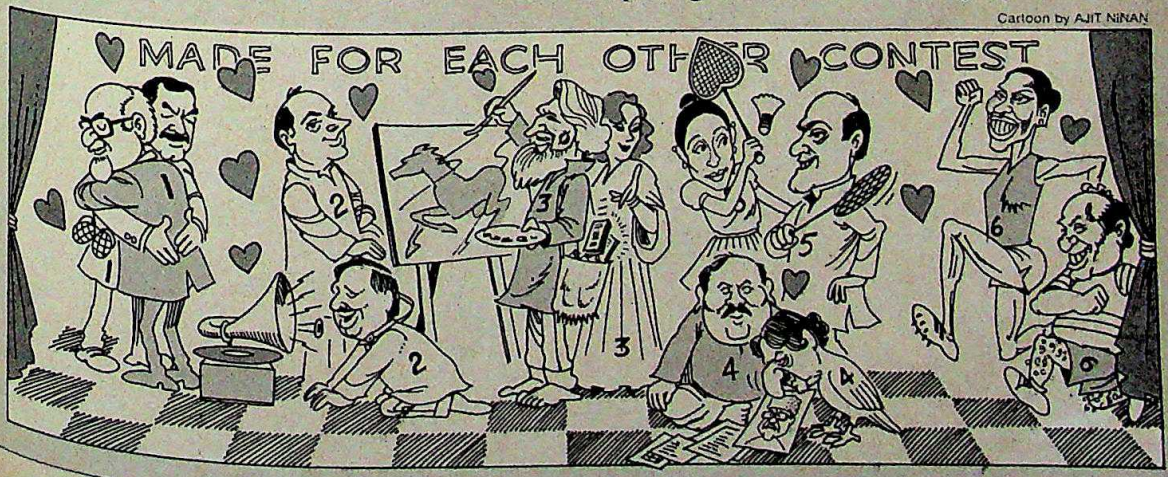
Bhure Lal and Vinod Pandey: The Laurel & Hardy lookalikes have stuck together through thick and thin. The power of the relationship has increased visibly since their return from the bureaucratic doghouse, showing their stars are in the ascendant. Astrologically, the poet and the pandit are in with an outside chance but the planets could turn against them. Nominated for being the country's FIRst couple.

Rajiv Gandhi and Mani Shankar Iyer: As different as palak and paneer but have become an inseparable couple. Iyer gave a new meaning to his title of Joint Secretary—he went and joint the Congress(I) President as his personal secretary. Mutual loyalty makes them strong contenders for the title though Iyer's role as His Master's Voice adds unnecessary stridency to the relationship. Nominated for proving that opposites attract—even if it's usually flak.

P.T. Usha and O.M. Nambiar: Have set many new records for the durability of the relationship, despite the many hurdles in their tracks. Nominated for being the couple in the fast lane. Main disqualification—her habit of referring to him as 'saar'.

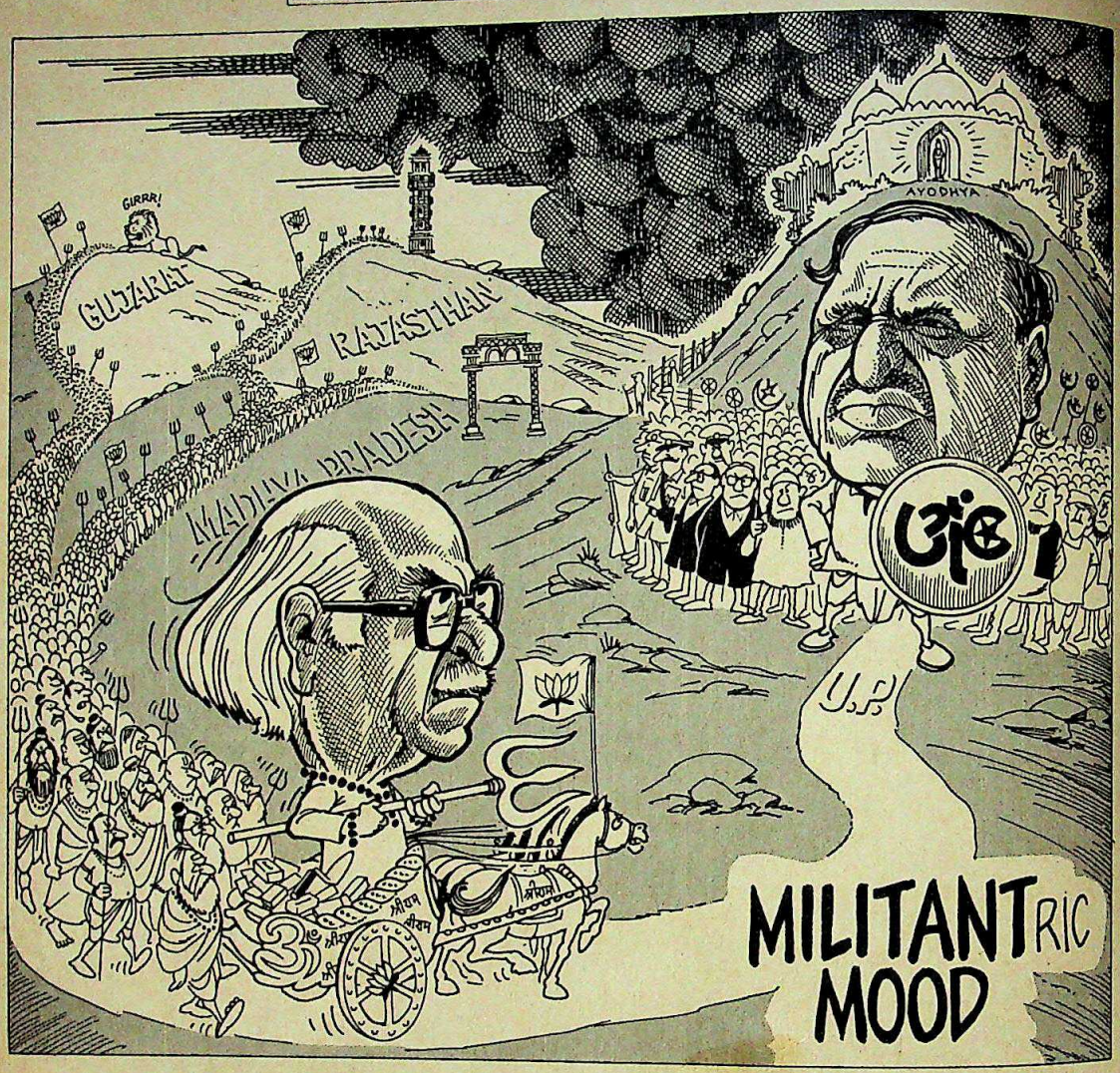
M.F. Husain and Parmeshwar Godrej: The bare-backed socialite and the barefoot painter have developed a mutually profitable relationship; he profits and she is able—to pay outrageous prices for his work. Nominated for proving that their art is in the right place.

Cartoon by AJIT NINAN



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



SIGN POSTS

KNIGHTED: I.G. Patel, 66, renowned economist and director, London School of Economics, by the British Government. Appointed "Knight, Commander, Order of the British Empire", he has been recognised for his "wide-ranging contribution to education, development economics and finance".

SUSPENDED PUBLICATION: By Delhi-based newspaper *Patriot*. The 27-year-old daily with leftist leanings had been incurring losses for quite some time and its circulation was dwindling. The crunch finally came after some of its employees obtained a court order for the implementation of the Bachawat Wage Board recommendations.

RAIDED: Shahnaz Hussain, high-profile, publicity-seeking herbal beautician, by the income tax authorities. The tax officials, who conducted simultaneous searches on 13 of her premises over four days, claim to have seized papers showing an investment in property worth over Rs 1 crore, more than 100 curios worth several lakhs, besides other valuables. The taxmen described the Delhi-based beautician's house as "a museum of sorts".

PRESENTED: To Gro Harlem Brundtland, environmentalist and former Norwegian prime minister, the Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development for 1988. This is in recognition of her efforts to improve the living conditions of the people.

BEATEN UP: Ravi Airy, a business executive, in an aircraft at Guwahati. Aides of Assam Home Minister Bhrigu Phukan asked him to vacate his seat. When he refused, he was beaten up badly. Said Airy: "It happened because I'm a non-Assamese." Phukan denied the men were with him.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

The feel of velvet, the glow of pearls.

Drape your walls with velvet. See them glow with the lustre and sheen of the perfect pearl. Available in 23 elegant shades and 6 natural whites. The perfect finishing touch your lifestyle demands. The Velvet Touch !

ICI Dulux

Velvet Touch

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

For those who have everything, something more.

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

... Nor through your nose.

Believe it! Now you can merrily buy world class shirts for Indian money.

The best shirts in the world are not just available in your own town but they are also tropicalised, so to say, down to the last stitch to suit the Indian male. Your climate. Your physique. Your style. Your moods at work and play.

And most surprisingly, your pocket! So that now you can dress up and take revenge on all those over-priced shirts of the world. In your own currency.

BLUE CHIP.
Expensive looking,
but highly affordable.

Don't pay in Dollars

BLUE CHIP
SHIRTS-TROUSERS

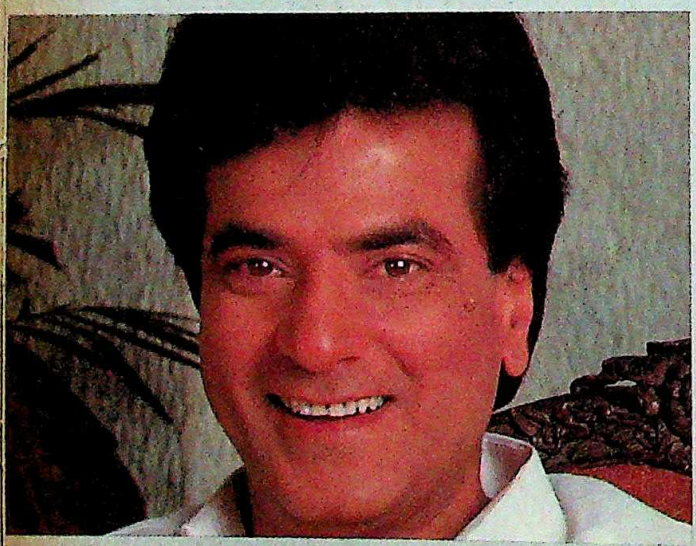
A quality product from
VIP

Collection, H

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

If you're over 30...

the best has just begun !



Look forward to the best years of you
Mature, confident, fruitful y
So what if you're not as young as
wa

If you're overworked, tired, lea
struggling to achieve that little ext
replenish your energies with Thirty P

Thirty Plus contains Ginseng
Ginseng has been revered by orie
scientists for centuries, and is in gr
demand today for its health giv
propert

Ginseng is a safe, natural stimulant, oft
used by athletes to increase stam

Many world celebrities including Indi
Gandhi, Henry Kissinger, Barba
Cartland and Marlon Brando have use
Ginse

... and Ashwagandh
Ashwagandha is a native root, mentione
in Vedic Literature as a herbal tonic an
health food

Ashwagandha improves muscula
strength and infuses fresh energy in the
human system when worn out due t
stress, fatigue and during convalescenc

A potent combinatio
Thirty Plus gives you the combined bene
of concentrated extracts of Korea
Ginseng and Ashwagandha. A natur
source of energy to supplement your o
natural powers. Thirty Plus helps bu
resistance, combats stress and augmen
energy level

So you feel fit, healthy and strong. T
best years of your life have just beg

Thirty Plus
ENERGY RECHARGERS

The power to go !

A product of ap **ajanta pharma limited**
21-31 Satyam, 318 Linking Road, Khar (West), Bombay 400 052.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

MADHYA PRADESH

Sloppy Sleuthing

● The Intelligence Department of Madhya Pradesh belies the very word. For here are no undercover agents who merge with the background, but conspicuous operators, who are easily identifiable by their crew cuts, police regulation clothes, and the fact that they cover the same beat practically all the time.

Nor are the constables merely brazen in their sleuthing. Their bosses are equally scornful of the undercover style of their operations. The top brass of the department, who are reluctant to forego even the slightest privilege, make it a point to announce their calling each time. They have installed on their unmarked cars—given to them in order to conceal their identity—flashing police red lights.

This overt investigative

P.C. SHAU

Narendra Prasad: pulled up

style has finally drawn flak. Last fortnight, the state DGP, S.V. Singh, ordered the intelligence chief, Narendra Prasad, to have the red lights from all cars of his department removed with immediate effect.

Consequently, the personnel stand to be deprived of that all important official perk: privilege. Now they can no longer violate traffic regulations with impunity; no *salaams* from sundry constables; and no recognition of their sleuth status from the lay public.

KARNATAKA

A Dramatic Death

Nakali Bhimla: Naxalite connections

● From rickshaw-puller to police constable to Naxalite—Nakali Bhimla's was a chequered career. Predictably, his death was just as dramatic. Last fortnight, police tracked him to his hide-out, a farmhouse, 7 km from Bellary town, in Karnataka, and shot him dead in a heavy exchange of fire.

Soon after constable Bhimla deserted his post at the Hyderabad police control room in June 1988, with three rifles, and 144 rounds of ammunition, the state police announced a reward of Rs 1 lakh for his arrest. A special team was then constituted to hunt him down.

But Bhimla proved elusive. He later leased a farmhouse from a retired bureaucrat and stayed there, until a farm worker, who was subsequently killed, reported the suspicious goings-on to the police.

When the Bellary police raided the farmhouse, a shoot-out ensued and letters and documents were seized. Though the Karnataka Police was only helping the Andhra Pradesh Police nab the criminal, they are now holding on to the papers that point to Bhimla's Naxalite connections.

GUJARAT

Unholy Furore

● The serene calm of the renowned Jain temples at Palitana, in Bhavnagar district of Gujarat has now been shattered by discord.

The temples, famed for their intricate carving, rake in crores of rupees each year in donations from wealthy pilgrims. The collection is among the highest in the country.

However, during the last year, the management controlled by the Anandji Kalyanji Trust, has embroiled itself in a conflict with the 400-member staff (including the 200 priests). The staff, earning a paltry Rs 300 per month, complained of exploitation by the authorities and went on a week's strike. The management, forced to accede, increased their salaries somewhat. Last fortnight the fracas erupted again as the management, in retaliation, sacked 92 artisans. The idea—to first punish the craftsmen and then the rebellious priests. The union, turning tables on the management, obtained a stay order from the Industrial Tribunal, and are again contemplating the idea of going on a strike against the repressive management.

ORISSA

Geriatric Woes

● Age is merely a state of mind. At least Biju Patnaik, at 74, seems to subscribe to that theory. He not only rides his cycle to the state secretariat but also effortlessly climbs the top of his Kalinga Rath in order to address mammoth rallies.

But one's years have a way of looming large on the horizon and that too in the most unexpected of ways. The grand old man of Orissa politics received a little jolt

PRAMOD PUSHKARNA

Biju: jolting reminder

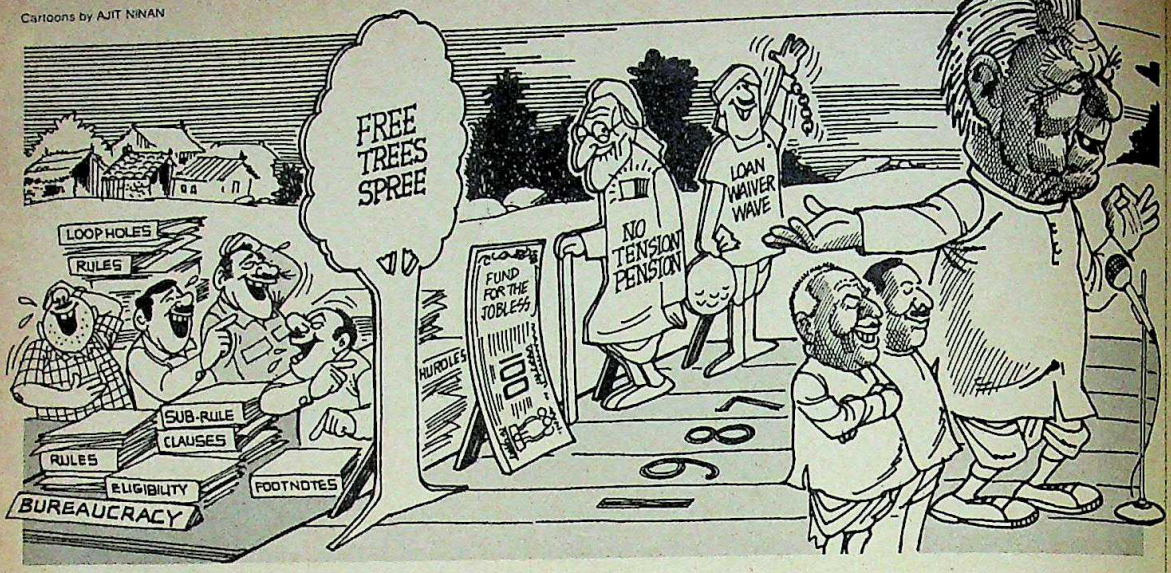
recently when some women belonging to Anugul town in Dhenkanal district wrote a letter to him complaining of the harassment and intimidation they had faced at the hands of the Janata Dal workers. The reason for this harassment was that some of their relatives had participated in the ongoing anti-reservation stir.

As the chief minister's secretariat, which on any given day receives hundreds of petitions, this one too would have passed by unnoticed and unanswered had it not been for the form of address the ladies had used. 'Dear Grandpa', they began, and immediately managed to touch a sensitive chord in the septuagenarian's heart. Thereby the ladies of Anugul, unwittingly, earned themselves a sure response. And also reminded the chief minister of the mortal nature of all flesh, no matter how powerful.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Cartoons by AJIT NINAN



HARYANA

Promises that Failed

Virtually all of Devi Lal's populist schemes have come to nothing, proving to be problems rather than the grandiose solutions he had envisaged.

A simple folk-tale is currently doing the rounds of Haryana villages—a farmer and his son were searching for their cow in a forest. Whenever the father came across a temple, he offered the deity one-fourth of the cow's milk if the gods helped them to find it. Soon the farmer had pledged away all the cow's milk to the gods. At this point the son aired his doubts: "Father, there's no point in continuing the search now as we will end up feeding the cow while all the milk will go to the gods." Replied the father: "You fool, let me get the cow first. I will take care of the gods later." Sure enough, the farmer found the cow but the milk never reached the gods.

Haryana's rural folk narrate this tale with relish, drawing striking modern-day parallels: the cow epitomises the state Government; the farmer, Devi Lal; the son, Om Prakash Chautala; the gods, the people of the state. And the reason for the recent revival of this tale is the realisation that Devi Lal has failed to keep most of his poll pledges even three years after storming to power in June 1987.

Devi Lal's massive win in Haryana may rank as a watershed in the nation's history, marking the beginning of the electoral downslide which was to ultimately dethrone Rajiv Gandhi and evict the Congress(I) government. But the victory came at a price, with the Jat chieftain literally promising his people the moon. "You vote me to power, and I will install a currency note printing machine in your village," was one of his favourite—and completely unrealistic—refrains. With the ease of a magician he promised old age pension, unemployment allowance, waiver of small cooperative loans, and even a share in government-owned trees. But Devi Lal held no magic wand; at best he was practising sleight of hand. And it soon became evident that the cost of these schemes was well beyond what a cash-strapped state treasury could bear.

And then Chaudhary Devi Lal became the Tau. He moved out onto the national political centre stage. At this point the state bureaucracy was asked to step in; to find vague excuses for the promises not materialising; to cope with the tough statistical jugglery necessary to implement some of the schemes even partially; and to consistently frame rules within rules that would keep a large section of the populace out of the schemes' ambit.

DOLE DILEMMA

If youth played an important part in ensuring Devi Lal's victory it was because he made them big promises. The most popular of these was his pledge to give Rs 100 a month to the educated unemployed of Haryana.

The scheme claimed to give an impetus to education among the rural youth: the reasoning was that with the state Government supplementing their incomes while they awaited employment, more youngsters would be encouraged to complete their education. It was a promise guaranteed to

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

The upper crest

The crest says it all.
Immaculate cut. Relentless stripes.
Designs of a higher order.
Louis Philippe. The international
signature of success.

Your ultimate credential

Louis Philippe
SIGNED DESIGNERWEAR

Premium shirts, trousers and accessories

CHAITRA-K-2990 IT

Louis Philippe is a designer label of The British Van Heusen Co. Ltd. Brought to you by Madura Coats.

Louis Philippe Exclusive Showrooms at: AHMEDABAD: G7 Amar Chamber, Near Swastik Char Rasta, Navrangpura. **BANGALORE:** Davidoss Building, Commercial Street. **BOMBAY:** India House No. 2, Kemps Corner. **CALCUTTA:** 35A Park Mansion, 57A Park Street. **COCHIN:** North End, M.G. Road. **COIMBATORE:** Century Plaza, 87/89 D.B. Road, R.S. Puram **NEW DELHI:** F-43, South Extension 1. **MADRAS:** Rani Seethai Hall, Opp. Anna Flyover. Opening shortly at: **SURAT:** Sagar House, Parshwanagar Complex, Majura Gate.

Louis Philippe Dress Circle Stores: MADRAS: Main Frame, Alsa Mall, Egmore. CALCUTTA: Orly Collection, Upper Wood Street.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

May we suggest an alternative to ju

Contract HM 221698

Accessories shown in the picture are not part of standard equipment.

A Limousine to every other car

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

to judge a man by the company he keeps?

Simple as it may seem, judging a man by the company he keeps isn't easy—since it means you have to judge the company itself.

One possible shortcut is by casting a quick glance over the cars parked in the driveway. And if they happen to be Contessas your problem is solved. Because the Contessa speaks volumes about the people who possess it.

A 1.8 litre Isuzu engine is an indication of power.

Five forward gears, including an overdrive, demonstrate an ability to perform at high speeds.

An impressively responsive steering confirms complete control.

Power disc brakes express the ability to respond swiftly and surely in times of crisis.

And, of course, a plush interior, an independent suspension and air conditioning point to an appreciation of the finer things in life.

But there's much more to the Contessa. So why not get in touch with us.

And judge for yourself.

Contessa
Classic 1·8 GL

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

INSPIRED BY NATURE PERFECTED BY US

25 YEARS

Comfort

Support

Elegance

KURI-ON Mattresses re-create the beauty and harmony of nature in a new range of tapestries, designed for timeless elegance.

Pure natural coir, generously sprayed with superior latex combine for perfect support and comfort.

And the quality of materials and workmanship make KURI-ON India's largest selling mattress.

Kurl-on®

India's largest selling mattress.

Karnataka Consumer Products Ltd., Marketing Division: Industry House, 45, Fair Field Road, Bangalore-1. Ph: 260769, 262710.

Offices & Showrooms: Phone Nos.: Bangalore: 266746, 233212; Hubli: 73086 (PP); Mangalore: 23209; Cochin: 366744; Cannanore: 78861; Madras: 831710; Coimbatore: 26921; Hyderabad: 66561, 234560; Visakhapatnam; 65448; Tirupathi: 22235; Bombay: 5113220; Nagpur: 32939; Goa: 23158; Bhubaneswar: 407740; New Delhi: 732133, 772019; Kanpur: 247211; Bhopal: 67874; Calcutta: 282089; Patna: 57911; (C & F) Guwahati: 26358, 31702; Alwar: 20664; (C & F) Chandigarh: 29203, 44424 (PP).

MASS/KCPL/90

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

win over the 1.52 lakh educated unemployed in the state—if not all of Haryana's youth.

For more than a year after Devi Lal became chief minister nothing came of this promise as the Government claimed to be working out the modalities. Finally in November 1988, the state Government decided to give Rs 100 a month to the unemployed—but only to those who were graduates and post-graduates.

The exclusion of other educated unemployed triggered off protests in the hinterland. So in July 1989, the state Government reframed the scheme: Rs 100 now went to graduates and above; Rs 75 to those with senior secondary certificates; and only Rs 50 to matriculates.

By these parameters, between January and March this year, the Government paid Rs 58.7 lakh to the unemployed. But surprisingly, it had identified only 34,650 beneficiaries—just 22.7 per cent of the 1.52 lakh unemployed in the state who are matriculates or above.

This dilution was achieved by attaching a simple rider to the scheme. Those eligible for the dole had to meet two conditions: their family income should be less than Rs 10,000 a year; and they should have been listed in an employment exchange for a period of at least two years.

Immediately, children of even low-level government servants were rendered ineligible as even a peon's salary these days exceeds Rs 10,000 a year. Only the children of casual labourers, landless farmers or those with very small holdings could claim to earn less than Rs 10,000. Moreover, few persons with such low incomes manage to educate their offspring and even if they do, this largely ignorant section does not run to an employment exchange as soon as a family member gets a degree.

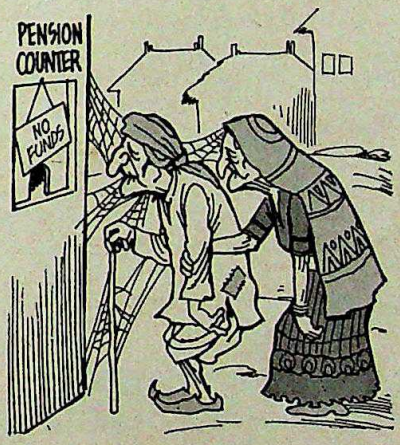
Take the cases of Ramesh Chand, Rakesh Kumar, Suresh Kumar and Balbir Singh, all graduates of Chunni Jattan village in Kurukshetra district. Not long ago, all four were staunch Devi Lal supporters—two of them were even jailed during his Nyaya Yudh movement in 1986.

When they heard about the unemployment allowance scheme all four planned to apply and went to the local block development office for a certificate of income. However, Suresh Kumar and Rakesh Kumar were rendered uneligible as the patwari refused to certify that their incomes were below Rs 10,000 as their families had small land-holdings. And Ramesh Chand and Balbir Singh met with the same fate as they had not bothered to register at an employment exchange two years ago.

Still unemployed, the four youth sit around with the village elders all day long, doing nothing. Said one of them: "The unemployment allowance could have helped pay towards the cost of travel to the city where we are constantly searching for jobs, but these rules always come in the way. Why don't the politicians talk about these rules while making their speeches and all those big promises?"

PENSION PROBLEMS

The old have fared no better than the young. Since February this year, beneficiaries of Devi Lal's much-touted scheme of giving a pension of Rs 100 a month to persons above 65, have been waiting—in vain—for their money orders. In all fairness to the state Government, this was one scheme that did initially appear to have taken off. But like all of Devi Lal's grand promises it turned out to be expensive: it is the



second biggest expense borne by the state treasury and accounts for nearly one-fourth of Haryana's non-development revenue expenditure.

Highlighting the blinkered planning is the manner in which the money has been raised for the pensions—which are supposed to benefit mostly farmers. Says former chairman of the State Planning Board, Mool Chand Jain: "We tried every conceivable way to raise revenue including selling off government land under encroachment. But this scheme kept on swelling." Eventually, last year, the state had to cut its budgetary provision for natural calamities relief from Rs 35.63 crore to Rs 5.75 crore; allocation for rural development schemes from Rs 55.31 crore to Rs 50.59 crore; and the sum earmarked for public works from Rs 26.38 crore to Rs 8.37 crore.

By thus slashing hefty chunks off other development plans, the state has raised Rs 52.61 crore. But Rs 101 crore have been earmarked for the scheme for the year 1990-91 alone. From where the Government plans to get the rest of the money is a Rs 47.29-crore question. Chief Minister Hukum Singh says they have raised the sum by cutting down on government expense, but according to the planning documents, only Rs 1.49 crore were saved on administrative expenses.

Even if the Government were to produce the money, it would have to indulge in considerable statistical jugglery. In fact, immediately after the Hukum Singh Ministry took oath in Delhi, the chief minister was huddled in a meeting with Revenue Minister Tayyab Hussain and state officials to find a solution to the pension problem. For aside from the fiscal burden the scheme is fraught with operational difficulties. It involves distributing Rs 100 every month to 7.37 lakh people. The money orders and stationery alone cost Rs 4 crore annually. Now the Government hopes to save this sum by distributing the money through Revenue Department officials. Said Hussain after the meeting: "Even my officials were reluctant to take responsibility. But we will do it. Let the money come."

Meanwhile, the aged of Haryana continue to wait for their pensions.

LOAN FIX

The most publicised of Devi Lal's poll pledges was the writing off of all co-operative loans under Rs 20,000. He assured farmers that by simply signing his name on the dotted line he would waive their loans and gift them a debt-free future. Had the promise actually

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

been implemented it would have cost a staggering Rs 240 crore. But to date only loans worth Rs 34.31 crore have been remitted by the Registrar of Societies, the coordinating body for all cooperative loans. The Government however claims that "the indebtedness in the state has been reduced by a sum of Rs 140.29 crore benefiting 4 lakh people". On close examination this amount turns out to be a compounded figure of bad debts, loans, penalties and interest due in the future.

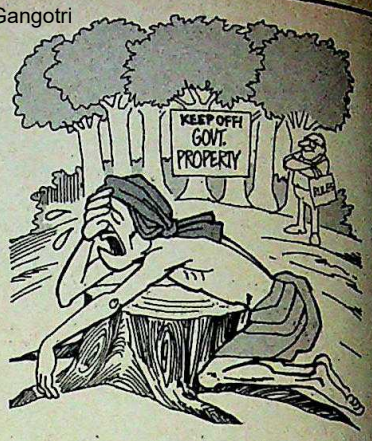
Once Devi Lal had ridden to power on the strength of this promise the Government framed one rule after another to narrow the scope of the scheme. On August 20, 1988, the Government announced that the loan waiving ceiling had been reduced from Rs 20,000 to Rs 10,000. A month later, it announced that only one loan per farmer would be waived. This meant that if a farmer had taken three loans under Rs 10,000, only one would be written off. Moreover, even that single loan would be waived only if that farmer was paying interest or instalments on the other loans.

The result was that many lost out instead of gaining from the scheme. After Devi Lal came to power, recovery of loans slid from the usual 60 per cent to 20 per cent as many farmers stopped paying back believing that the Government would write off their debts. But instead of waivers they received summons from the banks—while the interest on their loans continued to pile up. And early this year, when Chautala was chief minister, hundreds of farmers— whose only crime was to have believed Devi Lal—were arrested for defaulting on payments. The arrests stopped only after the BJP and the Congress(I) launched a massive campaign. Their slogan: *"Tau tere raj main, jameen gayee byaj main."* (Tau, in your rule, the land has gone in the interest).

Interestingly, the National Front Government had also promised waiver of agricultural loans up to Rs 10,000 taken before October 1989. The cut-off date for the Haryana scheme was June 1987—and the state Government claims to have waived all loans under Rs 10,000 taken before that date. But now the state has demanded Rs 154.7 crore for writing off loans under the Central scheme. As it is highly improbable that the state could have issued fresh loans worth Rs 154.7 crore between June 1987 and October 1989, that figure obviously includes loans which should have been waived under the state's scheme itself. Says Chief Minister Hukum Singh: "We have done our bit and written off loans before 1987. Now we can only waive loans taken after that period when we get the money from the Centre."

TREE TROUBLE

The most bizarre poll pledge made by Devi Lal to the farmers, however, was his promise to hand over to them half the trees lining their fields. Most of the highways, roads and railway lines in Haryana have been painstakingly lined with trees, mainly eucalyptus, by the Forest Department. Every year the Forest Department fells between 1.5 and 1.8 lakh of these trees worth approximately Rs 9 crore. According to these statistics, the farmers were in for a windfall and should have received trees worth Rs 4.5 crore annually.



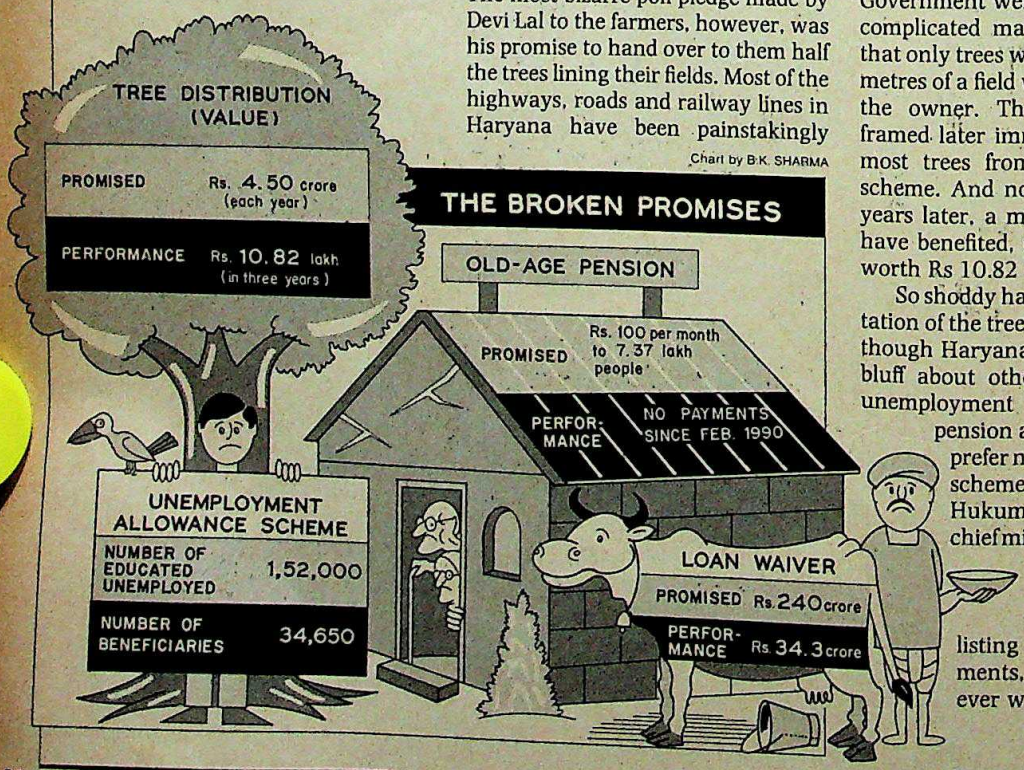
The logic offered for the scheme was that the eucalyptus trees adversely affected agricultural productivity and therefore farmers should be compensated for the losses incurred by them. And as far as the other species were concerned, it was argued that once farmers were given a stake in the trees, they would stop their felling.

The scheme was harebrained right from its conception, as it is virtually impossible to pinpoint the exact number of trees lining the fields. And the Government went ahead and further complicated matters when it stated that only trees which fall within three metres of a field would be shared with the owner. That and other rules framed later immediately took away most trees from the ambit of this scheme. And now, more than three years later, a mere 500-odd farmers have benefited, receiving 8,157 trees worth Rs 10.82 lakh.

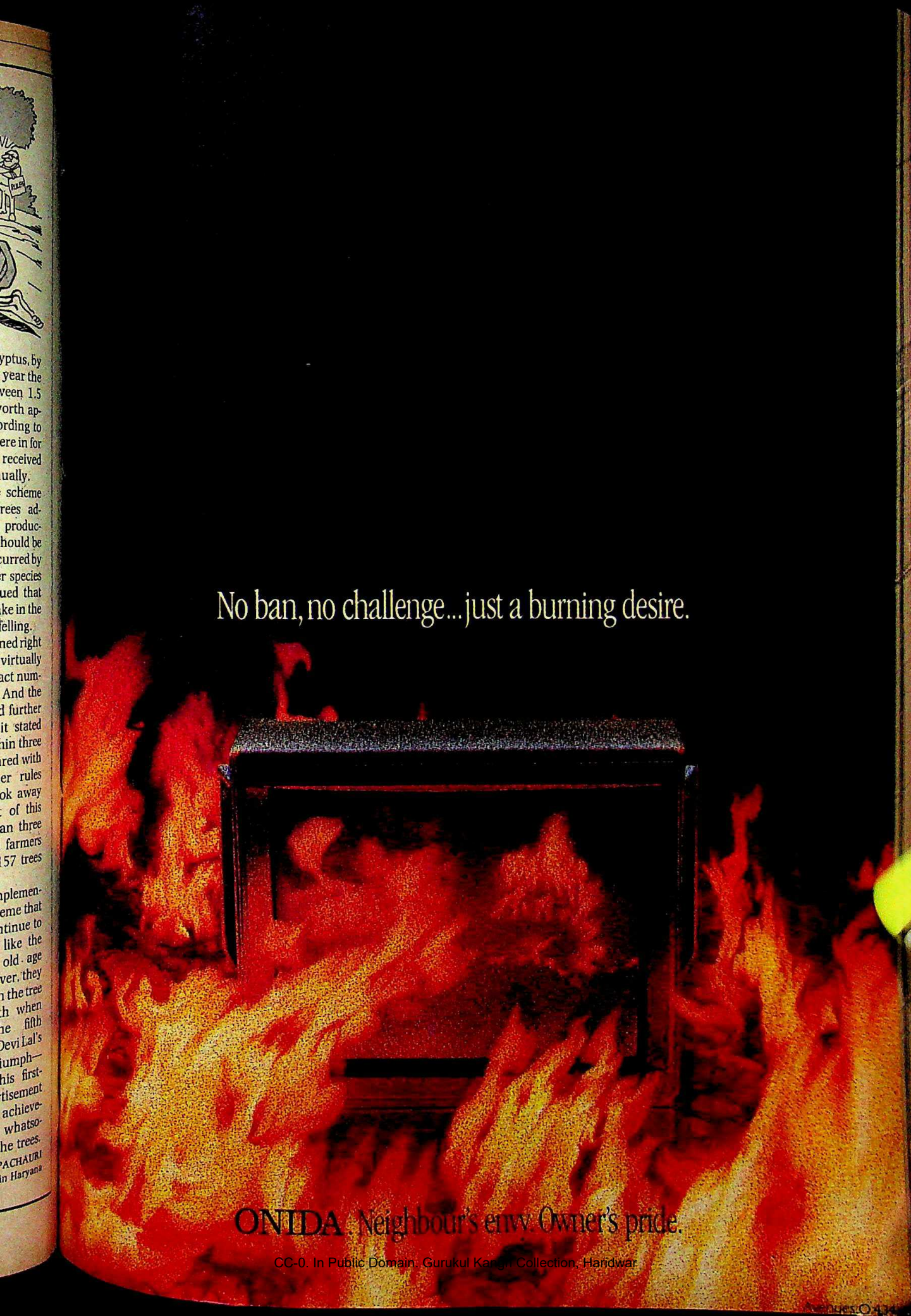
So shoddy has been the implementation of the tree-sharing scheme that though Haryana's rulers continue to bluff about other promises like the unemployment allowance, old-age pension and loan waiver, they prefer not to mention the tree scheme. Last month when Hukum Singh—the fifth chief minister since Devi Lal's 1987 triumph—published his first-ever advertisement listing Haryana's achievements, no mention whatsoever was made of the trees.

—PANKAJ PACHAURI
in Haryana

Chart by B.K. SHARMA



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

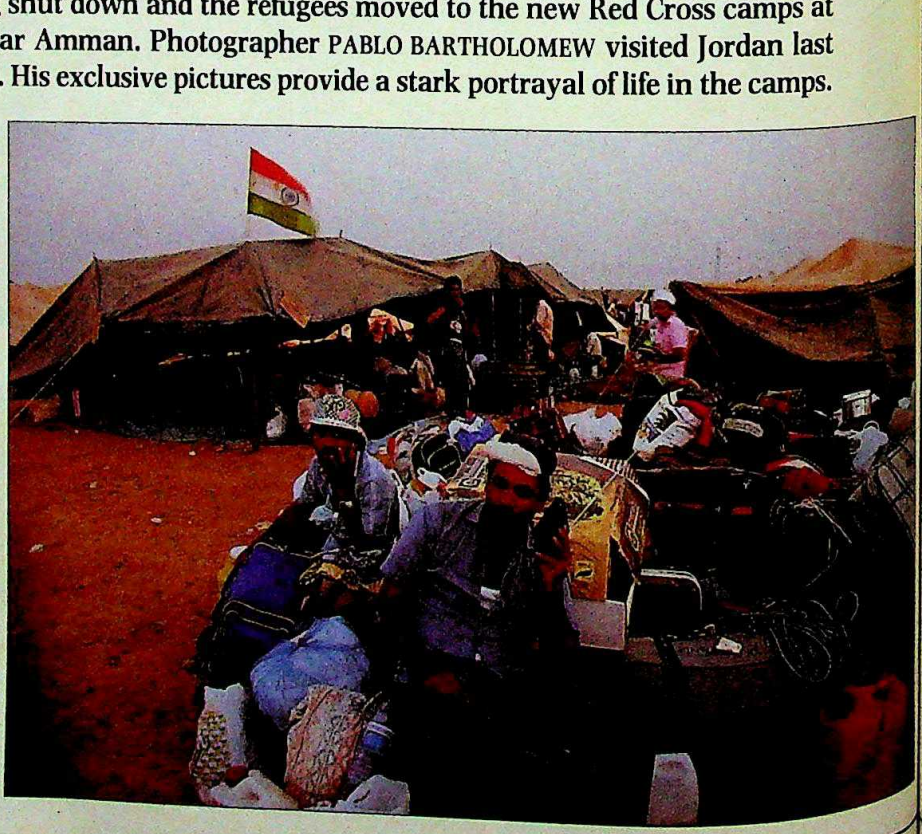
PHOTO FEATURE BY PABLO BARTHOLOMEW/GAMMA LIAISON

GULF REFUGEES

In Agonising Limbo

Despite the best efforts of the Indian Government and relief agencies, the condition of the refugees stranded on the Jordanian border continues to be pitiable. Following widespread media coverage the infamous Sha'alaan camps are being shut down and the refugees moved to the new Red Cross camps at Azraq near Amman. Photographer PABLO BARTHOLOMEW visited Jordan last fortnight. His exclusive pictures provide a stark portrayal of life in the camps.

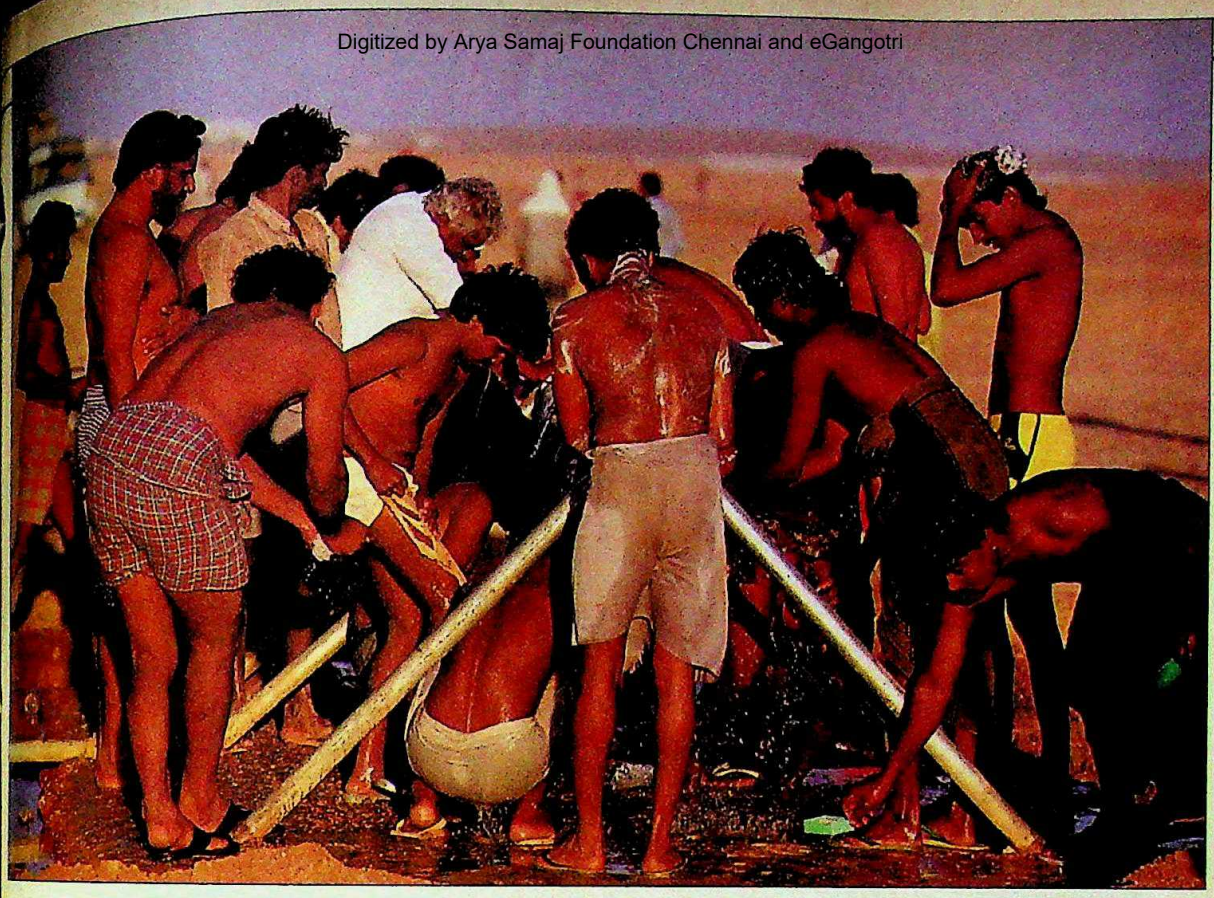
▲ Indians and Asians queue up for food on the Jordanian border



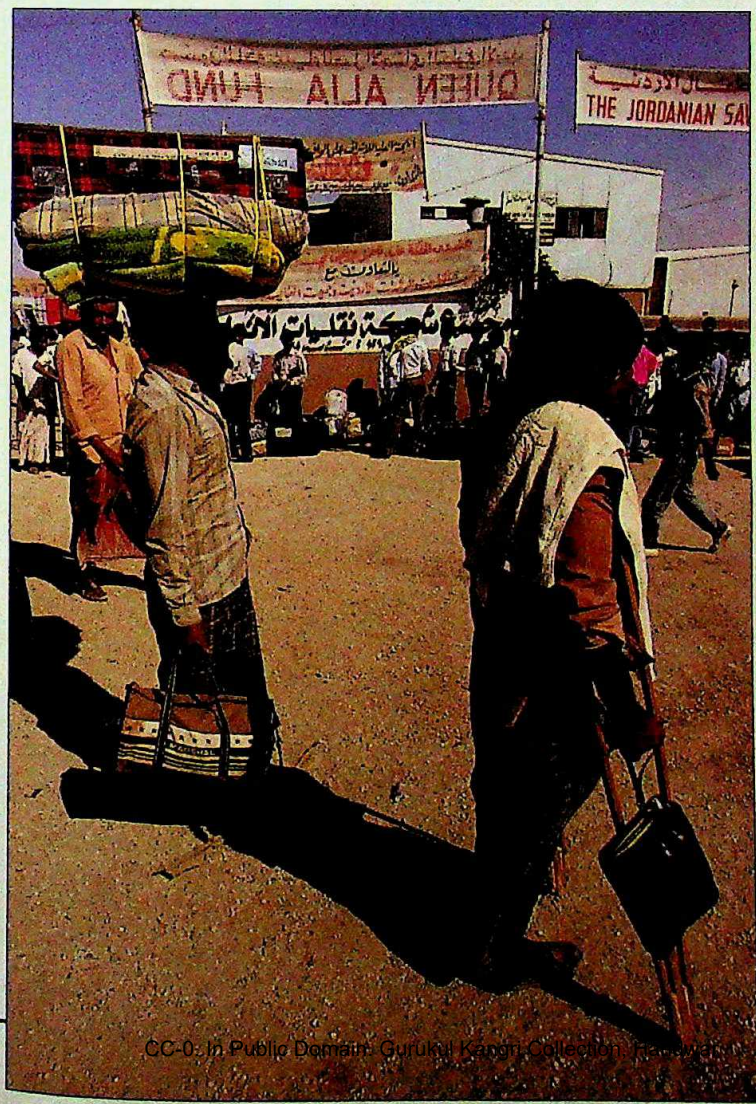
▶ Goans with their luggage outside the Sha'alaan camps listening to the radio

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



Indians bathing at one of the two Azraq camps. There were many complaints of shortage of toilets and water, forcing people to bathe in the fields



A lame Sri Lankan man standing in a queue to register himself for the ride to the airport

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

FROM DELHI AND CALCUTTA, THE AIRLINE OF TOMORROW FLIES YOU TO THE WORLD

Royal Jordanian Airline flies you direct from Delhi and Calcutta to Amman, the gateway of the Middle East. Onward destinations to European capitals, Montreal and New York are scheduled for your convenience and comfort.

Discover the world from Amman, the home of Royal Jordanian. Fly on board the aircraft of tomorrow, the Airbus A310 and enjoy a traditional Jordanian welcome.

On your way to discovering the world, discover what a difference enjoyable travel on Royal Jordanian can be.

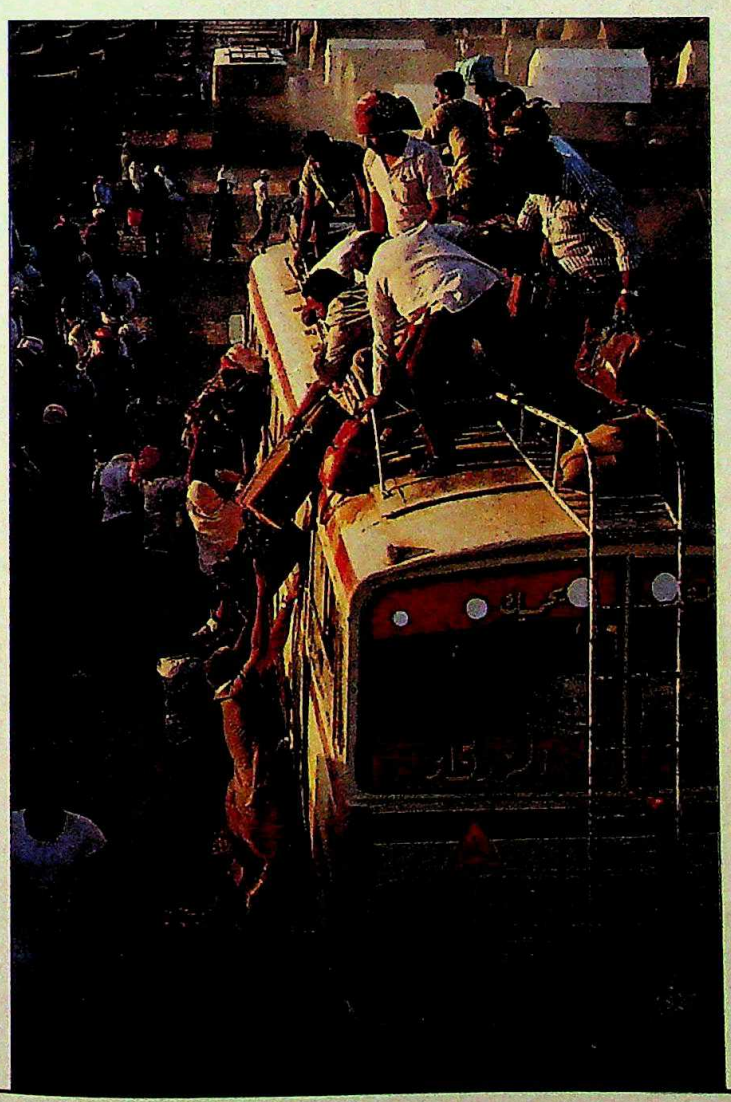
ROYAL JORDANIAN الملكية الأردنية

For more information and reservations, please call your travel agency or Royal Jordanian at : Calcutta 484261 or Delhi 3319890.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

▲ Lines of buses taking the evacuees to Amman through the desert



◀ Indians unloading luggage at one of the two Azraq camps which is exclusively for them

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

YOUR EARS WON'T KNOW WHERE TO LOOK.

THE INCREDIBLE AV SURROUND THEATRE BY NEC.

Feast your eyes on a jumbo screen with life-like clarity. While the Dolby Surround Sound Amplifier treats your ears to undiluted precision acoustics. The AV Surround Theatre — brings home the excitement of a concert hall. You can expect many more such high-technology miracles from NEC of Japan.The company that is 32nd on Fortune's Global 500.World leaders in computers, communications, electron devices and home electronics. Pioneers of the concept of Computers & Communications (C&C). Marketing over 15,000 products in 140 countries. When you next go abroad, find out why NEC's products always show to packed houses.

In India, NEC's amazing technology can be seen in BUSH and CROWN TVs and VCRs and Projection TVs from ENTEL.

LINTAS NEC P 11 2417

NEC

NEC Corporation, Japan.

The Future of Home Entertainment.

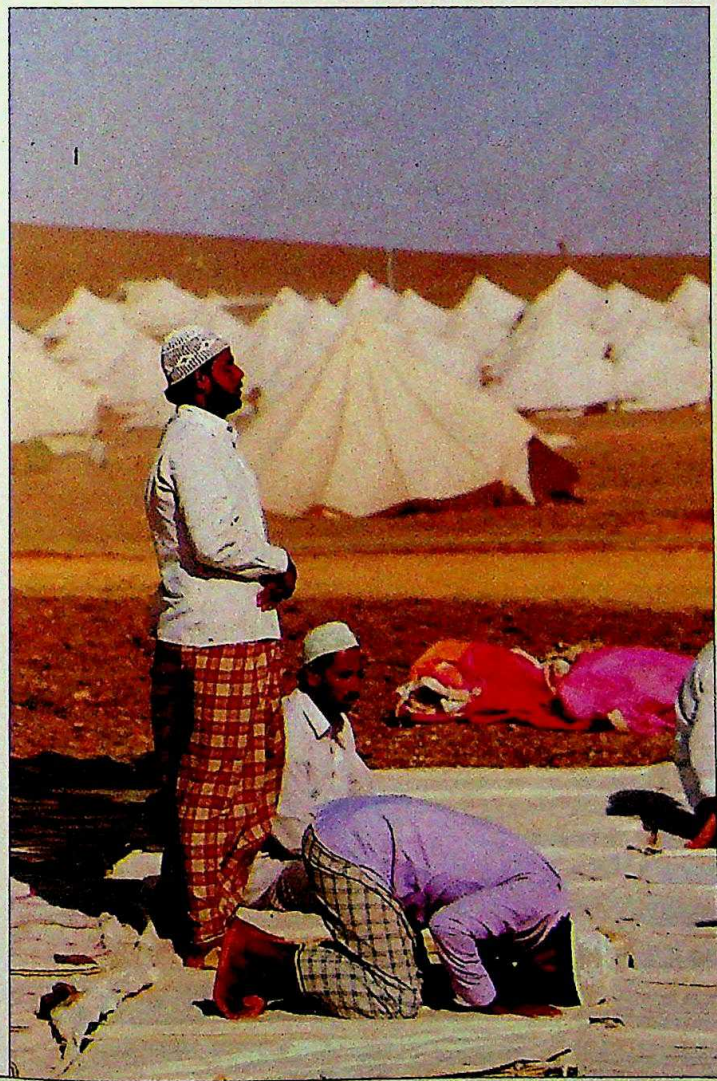
For information only

DAVIS CUP by NEC

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

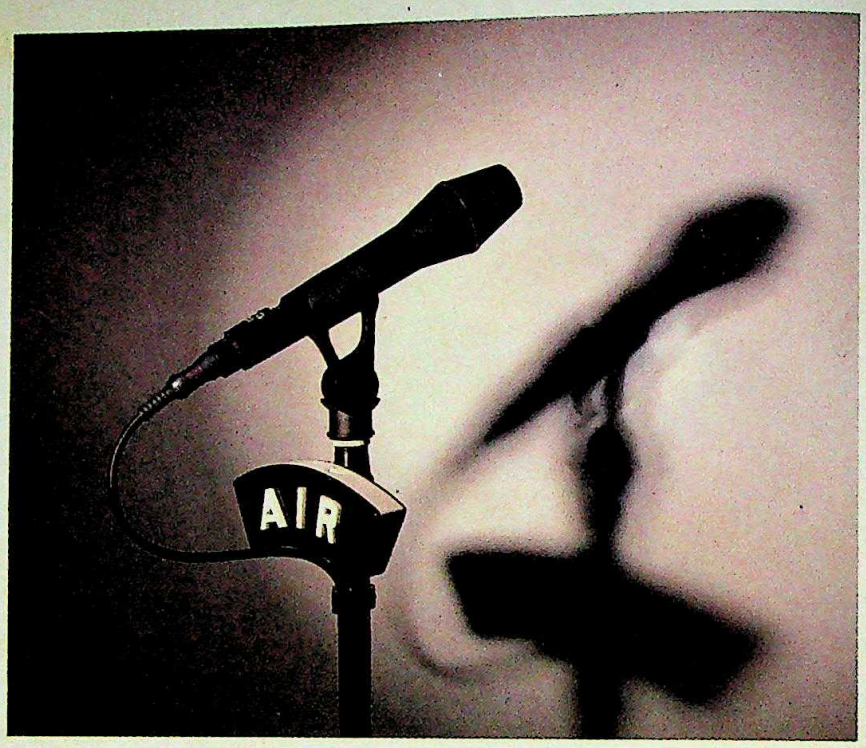
▲ Evacuees at the International airport in Amman waiting to catch their flights



◀ Bangladeshi Muslims praying at one of the two Azraq camps

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



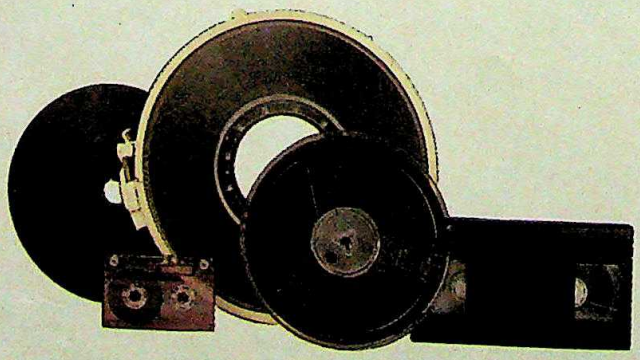
The voice of the world's largest democracy. It wakes you up at dawn with the patriotic notes of the *Bande Mataram*. And keeps you engrossed till midnight. With entertainment and news-updates.

Every single signal from *Akashvani* is brought to you via audio tapes from one organisation. Hindustan Photo Films.

HPF's INDU Audio Tapes come in spools and cassettes. And have achieved world standards among professional audio tapes made in India.

Made in collaboration with world leader Magna Tontrager Produktions GmbH of West Germany, the INDU range of magnetic tapes will soon be available for VCRs and computers too. For HPF, it's a mission, to indigenously meet the nation's needs with the latest information hardware. Because today's information needs tomorrow's technology.

And you don't have to listen hard, it's tomorrow's voice you're hearing today.



INDU

HINDUSTAN PHOTO FILMS

PHOTO
CINE
X-RAY
GRAPHIC ARTS
INDUSTRIAL X-RAY
CHEMICALS
MAGNETIC TAPE
INSTANT PHOTOGRAPHY

R K SWAMY/HPF/7377

F U T U R E I N F O C U S

Hindustan Photo Films Mfg. Co. Ltd. (A Govt. of India Enterprise)
Registered Office: Indunagar, Udhagamandalam 643 005.
Marketing Headquarters: Bali Towers, 1 Abdul Razak Street, Saidapet, Madras 600 015.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

DUBAI

CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM

Despite the shadow cast by the Gulf crisis, Dubai's heady growth powered by some of the world's most liberal economic laws shows little sign of slowing down.

NDU
USTAN
O FILMS
HOTO
CINE
-RAY
HIC ARTS
RIAL X-RAY
EMICALS
ETIC TAPE
HOTOGRAPHY

Gurukul Publi

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

SANYO

Now movie-making is as easy as taking a snapshot.

New
VEM-S1P

Free
Carrying case

8mm shooting has never been so easy. The new VEM-S1P combines a full range of automatic functions and simple operation modes to give you superior picture quality – in a compact, 900g package that lets everyone, including beginners and children, shoot excellent video movies.

Sanyo makes Sense!

Special advantages

- Digital auto focus – even through glass or water
- Digital auto iris for accurate exposures
- 6X power zoom with macro function
- Self timer
- Tiltable electronic viewfinder
- Easy playback, dubbing and editing

Also available - model VM-Hl00P in the professional Hi-8 format.

GMASCO 10012 4/90

Al-Futtaim electronics – Sanyo

Abu Dhabi	213577/8	Bur Dubai	535124	Ras Al Khaimah	31101
Dubai	694922/694991	Al Ain	641473	Fujairah	20202
Al Ghurair Centre	233306	Sharjah	354808		

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Text by SALIL TRIPATHI
Photographs by NAMAS BHOJANI

EVERY economic powerhouse in the world has its barometer: New York has the Dow Jones Industrial Average, Chicago its railroad wagon movements. Dubai has its creek; if it is full, times are good. These days, Dubai khor or creek is full again.

Two months after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, it's business as usual in Dubai, barely 900 km from the hotspot. At the serpentine creek, flanked by massive buildings, there's an endless line of dhows laden with cargo: electronic goods being ferried to Iran, tyres earmarked for Bahrain, foodstuff coming from India. Says Jumbo Electronics Chairman Manu Chhabria, whose company distributes Sony products in the region: "We've done more business this month than in any other this year. Everything is just fine, there's nothing to worry about." That confidence is echoed by Abdulrahman G. Al Mutaiwee, director-general of the Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry. "We look optimistically to the future," he says.

Economic statistics bear out that confidence. Consider these facts:

▶ Business turnover in September was 20 per cent over the figure for the same month last year.

▶ The number of renewed trade licences in August was 733, up from 697 last year.

▶ The number of flights to and from Dubai is increasing exponentially: British Airways has increased the number of flights from 14 to 30 a week, Cathay Pacific from 14 to 28. Others, such as Philippine, KLM and Lufthansa, have upgraded flights.

▶ The number of passengers handled in August was 500,873, a 20 per cent increase over last August. Air cargo volume, at 11.827 million kg, was 14 per cent more than in August 1989. The number of departures, at 140,795, was 18 per cent more than in the previous August.

Yet it would be wrong to say that the Iraqi invasion has left Dubai untouched. Under the business-as-usual surface calm, there is a sense of uneasiness, though far less than in the first week after the invasion.

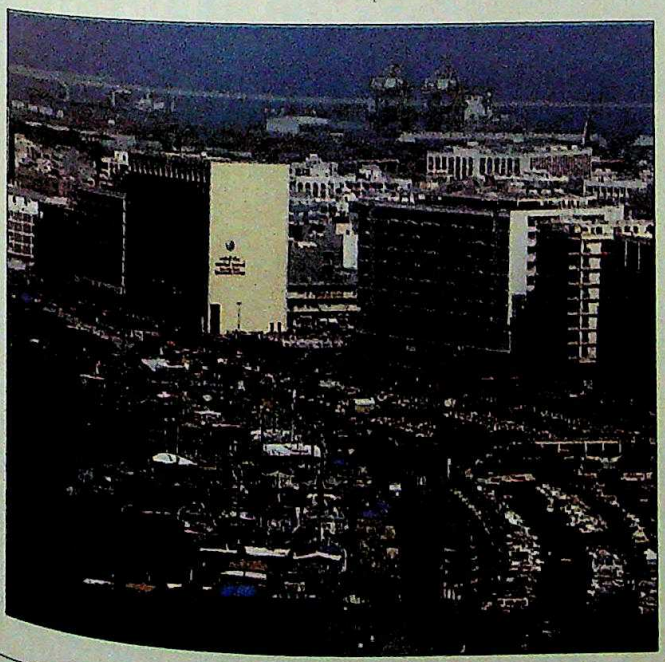
At that time, there was outright panic. Khalid bin Walid street in Bur Dubai was filled with parked cars, their owners having dashed to Citibank and Standard Chartered Bank to convert local currencies into foreign ones. Dealers refused to grant credit to known customers, unofficial bank rates dropped, economic activity came to a brief halt, and banks stopped giving consumer finance, especially to expatriates who might exit the country leaving the bank high and dry. Planned ventures were shelved temporarily, some construction projects cancelled, buyers refused to buy on cash terms, and wholesale trade fell by about 50 per cent.

Some effects of that panic linger on. In August, the Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry issued 4,920 certificates of origin for exported and re-exported consignments, a 6-per cent drop from the figure for the same month last year. And Al-Ghurair Center, Dubai's leading shopping mall, registered a 5 per cent decline in retail trade.

But even here, things may not be as bad as they appear. The drop in the issue of export certificates, analysts say, is only a temporary glitch. And Satish Khanna, marketing manager

"Business and industry are doing well and we are very optimistic about the future."

▼ ABDULRAHMAN G. AL MUTAIWEE
Director-general of Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry



View of Dubai: commercial lifeline

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Lagoon near Thorbjarnarfell, Iceland – May 17, 1989 at 3 pm

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

WHAT TIME IS IT?

AN ETERNITY.

RW

RAYMOND WEIL

GENEVE

LE TEMPS CRÉATEUR

OTHELLO
Collection
A sleek, thoroughbred contemporary design, handcrafted, Water-resistant 18K goldplated case, genuine croco strap.

Al-Futtaim watches

Al-Futtaim Watches
P.O. Box 7916 - Dubai
Tel. 236186/224164

KUWAIT Mohammed Abdullah Al-Batel
P.O. Box 34 - Safat
Tel. 419419

OMAN Oman Marketing & Services Co.
P.O. Box 5734 - Ruwi
Tel. 793631/562143

QATAR M/S Hamad and Mohammad Al-Futtaim
Watches Division
P.O. Box 1427 - Doha
Tel. 416147

SAUDI ARABIA Al-Homaidhi & Bros
P.O. Box 169 - Riyadh
Tel. 402 56 95

Badghaish Store
P.O. Box 2016 - Al-Khobar
Tel. 864 11 18

Ibrahim M. Sirwi
P.O. Box 138 - Jeddah
Tel. 643 86 45

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

of Al-Ghurair, is confident that with the number of tourists zooming, business is bound to thrive. Says Vikram Kaul, director, Nasser Air Travel and Shipping Agencies: "Dubai has withstood the pressures of the eight-year Iran-Iraq war, the collapse of the Kuwait stock exchange, fall in oil prices and recession in the region. There's no reason to lose confidence."

Like Kaul, many in Dubai like to compare the current crisis with the eight-year-long Iran-Iraq war when Dubai's economy had grown rapidly. But the comparison is not totally accurate. During the Iran-Iraq war, Dubai had not taken sides. Now it has condemned the invasion of Kuwait and offered the multinational force now stationed in Saudi Arabia permission to use the Bateen airbase near Abu Dhabi.

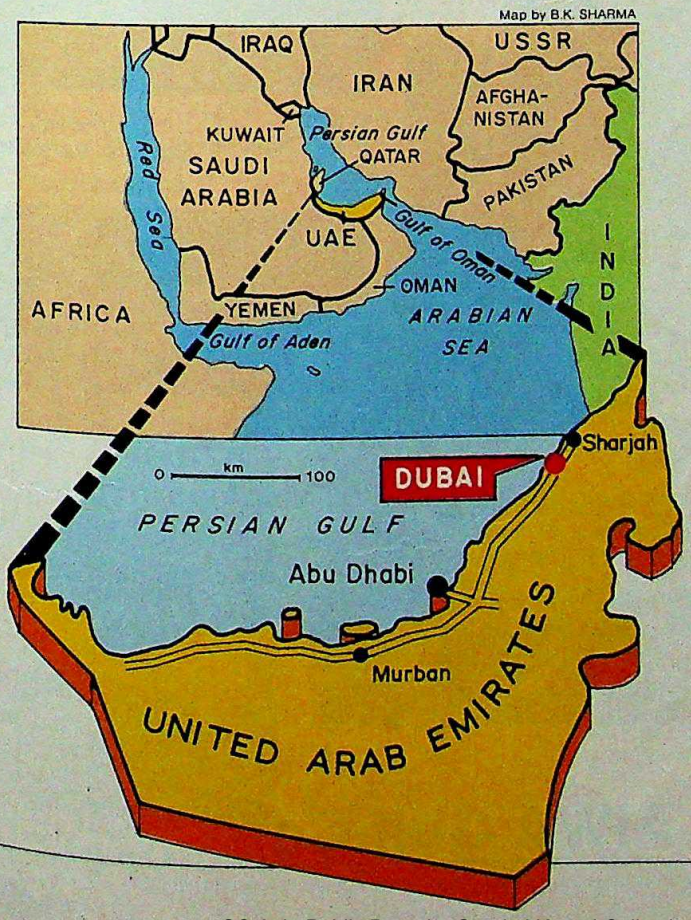
What's paradoxical is that oil, the cause of the present Gulf crisis, plays little part in Dubai's economy. Dubai is part of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), along with six other emirates in the region—Abu Dhabi, Sharjah, Ras Al Khaimah, Fujairah, Ajman and Umm Al Quwain—which came together in 1971 after the British left. The UAE was a main target of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's ire. But unlike Abu Dhabi, the principal oil producer in UAE, Dubai produces little oil.

Its economic dynamism comes from its centuries-old tradition of trade, based on its strategic position in the Gulf—a vantage point between Asia and Europe. The emirate has cashed in on that geographical advantage. Its ruler, Sheikh Rashid, once said: "Dubai will forever remain a trading city," a slogan which has become a mantra for its officials.

PROFIT is not a dirty word here. Dubai treats its business community as it treats its clergy—with reverence. And realising that nothing attracts business like economic freedom, Dubai has pulled out all the stops. It has no taxes on profits or incomes, no foreign exchange controls, a freely convertible currency, and a tolerant, liberal climate. To drink, all you need is a permit, and non-Muslims can buy pork. The rulers get an approving nod from Hamid Shahmiri, general manager, Middle East Bank: "The culture here truly respects and encourages economic freedom. They're pro-active, not reactive. This must be the freest economy in the world."

The policy paid off from the start. Though Britain relinquished control over the region in 1971, many Britons remained—to administer and take up professional jobs. US technicians arrived to help set up rigs. The Lebanese came to set up advertising and communication businesses. Indians came to trade. And labourers from the subcontinent arrived to build Dubai's infrastructure. The decline of Beirut from being the pride of the region to a civil-war-prone urban hell too has helped. It prompted many companies to relocate their regional headquarters elsewhere. Many chose

Map by B.K. SHARMA



"We've done more business this month than in any other this year. There's nothing to worry about."

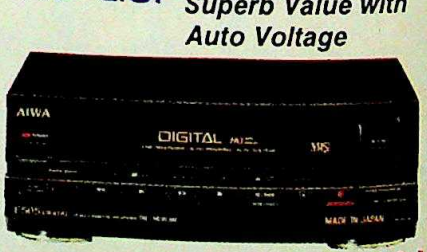
▼ MANU CHHABRIA
Chairman, Jumbo Electronics

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

WORLD'S FIRST MULTI-SYSTEM TELEVIDEO

HV-E101 **VHS HQ VCP**
Superb Value with Auto Voltage



HV-E505 DIGITAL **VHS HQ VCP** *with Line Recording*

VX-T1000 MkII

Finally, the docking of television and multi-system video for out-of-this-world home entertainment from a single unit. The new VX-T 1000 MkII combines a PAL/MESECAM/NTSC 4.43 3-system VCR with a superb 14" TV. Enjoy NTSC video software popular world wide, record local programs, or just watch the TV. A single remote controller operates both TV and VCR, while Quick Timer Recording enables easy timer setting.

- *Digital Auto Tracking
- *Auto Voltage (90V-260V)
- *Built-in Stabilizer

DIGITAL MADE IN JAPAN

Digital Audio & Video
AIWA®

AIWA Gulf Co.
P.O. Box16774 Jebel Ali, Dubai. Tel 084-56013/55061, Fax 084-56135

Service Centres in India
DELHI *Olympia Service Centre Tel. 6416344, 6416296
BOMBAY MADRAS CALCUTTA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Dubai, attracted by its infrastructure and liberal laws. In fact, one major reason for Dubai's success is that it is an ethnic melting pot, where people of diverse nationalities have sunk their differences and come together in the pursuit of a common goal: material prosperity. Says an Indian consultant: "The multinational mix of Dubai's population is similar to the early American situation when immigrant groups from various countries, each with its own special strength, helped to build the country in a free environment." The analogy may not be so far-fetched, at least judging from the heady pace at which Dubai's economy has been chugging along: gross national product is growing at a rate of 8 per cent a year.

Other figures too stand testimony to Dubai's economic vitalism. Last year, its Port Rashid alone handled 10.6 million tonnes of cargo. The enormous but underused port, Jebel Ali—the world's largest man-made harbour—is now profiting from the overflow of traffic from Port Rashid: it serviced 10 million tonnes last year, 123 per cent up from the previous year. Also, Dubai accounts for 70 per cent of the UAE's imports and re-exports, and half of its non-oil exports. Last year, Dubai's re-exports rose 28 per cent to Dirham 6.5 billion (Rs 3,250 crore). And imports exceeded $7 billion, much of it re-exported worldwide.

Future plans are more ambitious. One is to prepare Dubai to take up Hong Kong's position, as a free port, in the world economy after the island reverts to Chinese control seven years from now. Another is to exploit its position on the world's trade routes to set itself up as a major centre for trade in sea-air cargo, wherein goods arriving from Asia are quickly transported to Europe. Towards these ends, Dubai has set up an impressive World Trade Centre (the tallest building in the Middle East) and a Tourist and Commerce Promotion Board, with key officials having been lured from Hong Kong. Already dozens of Indians settled in Hong Kong have established garment export facilities in the Jebel Ali Free Zone *(see accompanying story)*. In a sense, Dubai is becoming the 20th century equivalent of pre-1453 Constantinople, then the meeting point for Asia and Europe.

TRADE, however, is not the only item on Dubai's agenda. It has now launched into production too. Until a few years ago, 'Made in Dubai' was a tag no one took seriously. Things have changed since then. Dubai now produces world-class aluminium at the state-of-the-art Dubal plant, and has launched a wire-cable factory. It has also ventured into metal fabrication besides manufacturing milk and leather products, plastics, building materials, paints, pipes, cables and fertilisers.

With characteristic gall, Dubai is now promoting itself as a tourist destination, even if all that it seems to have to offer are miles of golden sand, a blazing sun, and a turquoise sea. But these elemental forces seem enough: it is seeking shoppers looking for cheap bargains and tourists from Europe who can use its impressive golf course or its beach hotels.

"It is very difficult to convince our emirate that taxes are necessary."

▼ SULAIMAN HAMID SALEM AL MAZROUI
Chief Manager, commercial and customer affairs, Middle East Bank

Dhow being loaded in the Dubai creek

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Even if we put the Kohinoor up for sale,
it wouldn't cost you the earth!

The finest collection at the world's most elegant duty free.
Dubai Duty Free.

For The World's Finest. **Fly-Buy-Dubai**

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Even today, Dubai is a great draw for chronic shoppers. Its *souks* (markets) are routinely filled with people buying saris, electronic goodies, gold, expensive tobacco, perfumes, garments. Its airport services 48 airlines, making it one of the busiest in the world, yet the time from disembarking to getting out of the airport is usually less than half-an-hour. It offers desert safaris as well as camel races. Diving, water skiing, sailing, fishing, horse-back riding are now promoted, as are shooting, archery, go-kart racing and even ice-skating. Combine that with boat racing, the Desert Classic golf competition, rock concerts, performances by Indian film stars and a swiftly-rising cricket stadium, and you have all the ingredients of a sure-fire tourist draw. Says Patrick McDonald, the energetic deputy chief executive of Dubai Commerce and Tourism Promotion Board: "We can offer the winter sun in an exotic location where you do not have to rough it out."

Then, there are American-style shopping malls with gleaming escalators and higher prices, like the Al-Ghurair Centre in Deira (daily turnover about 2.5 million dirhams) and the Dubai Duty Free Shop *(see accompanying story)*. Haggling, even offering a price that is half the tag, is not considered outrageous.

As Dubai modernises rapidly, reducing its dependence on traditional oil-related trade and creating an infrastructure that could attract not only the millions fleeing Hong Kong, but also companies interested in establishing their presence in West Asia, it is governed by a can-do culture rare in the region.

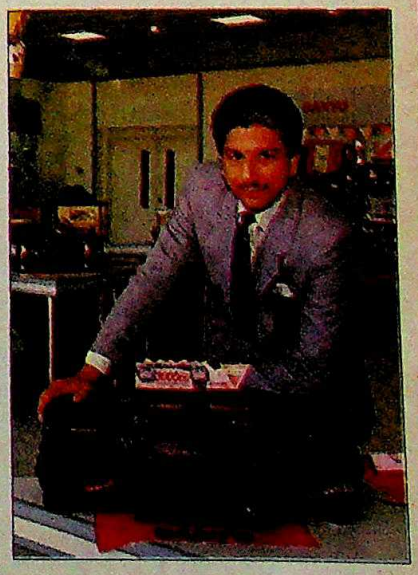
EXAMPLE: when Dubai found that Gulf Air was not servicing Dubai as often as required, it floated its own airline, Emirates, which has repeatedly won awards as the best carrier in the region. "The spirit of enterprise hasn't been reined in in any way," says Vishesh Bhatia, managing director, Al Futtaim Engineering. "If you keep your wits about and operate carefully, there's plenty of money to be made."

Even as it pursues its Hong Kong dream with that gung-ho enterprising spirit, analysts stress that what Dubai is seeking to do is to emerge as an alternative to Hong Kong, not a substitute. Explains Ronald Hinchley, chartered surveyor with Clutton's, leading property surveyors of the Middle East: "Dubai doesn't want to become Hong Kong from the point of view of social life. Dubai isn't interested in what Hong Kong has to offer for the lower end of society. It is interested in pro-

"Enterprising spirit hasn't been reined in. If you keep your wits about you, there's plenty of money to be made."

▼ VISHESH BHATIA
Managing Director
Al Futtaim Engineering

Bootleg Beatles (top); and a shopping plaza: western.wave



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

viding a sophisticated industrial and commercial environment, and a pleasant place for people to live."

Many feel it is already there: with a high standard of living, a life-style unmatched in the region where belly-dancing by Mexican women with hour-glass figures in Al-Khaleej hotel or the sight of European women clad in sleeveless blouses and short skirts doesn't invite *mutawas* (religious police) to come scurrying with batons.

If foreign businessmen have any complaint at all, it is about the absence of local corporate jurisprudence. At least a few are apprehensive of dealing in a world where a negotiation session could last an entire day during which nothing of substance may be discussed. Over endless cups of Arabic tea, the Arabic businessman may talk about seemingly irrelevant issues. He may inquire about the foreigner's family, his personal health and so on, all the while deftly fingering his prayer beads and taking time off to pray.

Those Arabic traditions are unlikely to vanish overnight, but there are reports of new business laws being formulated. These would codify business practices and remove the anxious uncertainty that at least some foreigners feel while dealing with Dubai. Such changes should attract more business and prepare the emirate for the day when its own oil and that of other emirates runs out.

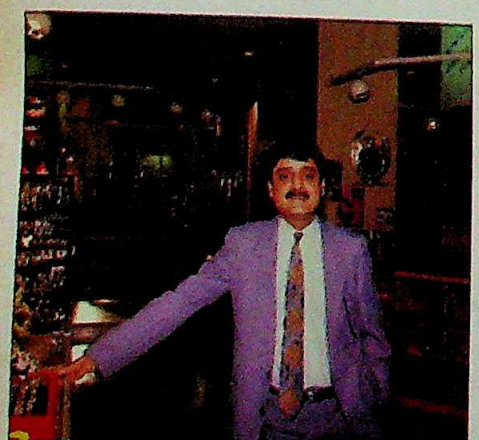
At the moment, however, Saddam Hussein's antics have cast a shadow over those magnificent dreams. During the Iran-Iraq war, Dubai had been insulated from the fighting. The war was really in the upper Gulf, while the lower Gulf sheikhdoms—Qatar, Bahrain, the UAE and Oman—had remained relatively trouble-free. Now it's a different story. The UAE has unequivocally thrown its lot with Kuwait. And its decision to grant permission to US Defense Secretary Dick Cheney to station troops in Dubai if necessary can't have endeared it to Saddam. So if war breaks out, Dubai could even find itself a target. So far, however, it has braved the crisis remarkably well, even benefited from it—at the cost of others.

FOR example, after the Iraqi invasion, there has been increasing demand for residential accommodation from an unexpected quarter: Kuwaitis who're using Dubai as a temporary base before returning home when the situation gets cooler. Says Anil Bharadwaj, group financial controller of Arenco, Dubai's leading real estate consulting firm: "During the present crisis, the place least likely to be affected is Dubai."

Just as its real-estate market has benefited from Kuwait's woes, Dubai's financial markets could gain from Bahrain's current agonies. The tiny island-sheikhdom, which some Iranian governments have considered their own, is close to Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, and the first thing to collapse on August 2 was its financial market. Said one leading Dubai-based financial analyst: "Bahrain was a ghost town. You had the feeling that Saddam had invaded Bahrain, not Kuwait." Bahrain is the region's financial powerhouse, an offshore financial centre which has more banks than restaurants. Now that it has collapsed, Dubai is admirably fitted to move into the breach. There's not much doubt that it will. For as few other regions in the world, Dubai seems to have learnt one lesson well: that adversity too has its uses.

"I am confident that with the number of tourists zooming, business is bound to thrive."

▼ SATISH KHANNA
marketing manager, Al-Ghurair



The exquisite golf course: tourist draw

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Sony decided on Dubai.

Here's why:

The name Sony needs no introduction. The company that invented the Walkman and pioneered the video revolution has some very firm ideas about success in the global marketplace. So when it came to choosing a base for their Middle East operations, Dubai, not surprisingly, was "the one and only" choice.

To Sony, Dubai's location, facilities and efficiency formed an unbeatable combination. Dubai is where East meets West. And it provides a perfect staging-post for penetrating the booming markets of the Arabian Gulf.

Political stability wasn't overlooked either. Under Dubai's enlightened and pragmatic leadership, the city is one of the safest, most peaceful places on earth.

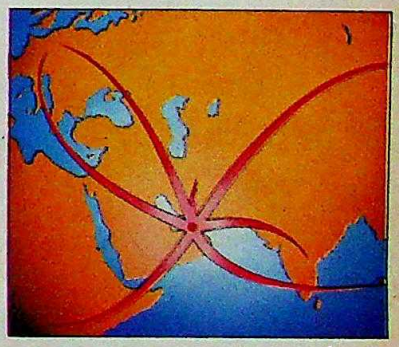
Food lovers are spoilt for choice in Dubai's luxury hotels and ethnic restaurants.

In Dubai's Jebel Ali Free Zone, Sony found that cheap, abundant land and energy were just the icing on the cake. 100% foreign ownership, complete repatriation of capital and profits, a guaranteed tax holiday for at least 15 years and an absence of import duties are among the other irresistible benefits.

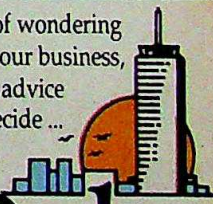
As for communications and transportation, you really couldn't ask for more. Dubai's efficient ports are served by most of the world's big-name shipping lines. Dubai International Airport is used by over 50 scheduled carriers that operate to 100 destinations worldwide. And in recent years, Dubai has also emerged as a major trans-shipment centre for sea-air cargo, its strategic location providing economical and easy access to manufacturers and buyers across the globe.

Dubai's efficient ports are amongst the most modern and sophisticated of their kind.

But that's not all. In Dubai we know that red tape strangles enterprise. So the rules and regulations that do exist ensure a well-ordered business climate in which free enterprise can and does flourish. And, yes, well-qualified, competitive manpower is readily available.



So instead of wondering where to locate your business, take some sound advice from Sony and decide ... decide on Dubai.



Decide on Dubai.

Yes! I want to decide on Dubai. Please rush me more information.

Name: .....

Title: ..... Company: .....

Address: .....

..... Postcode: .....

Tel: ..... Fax: ..... Tlx: .....

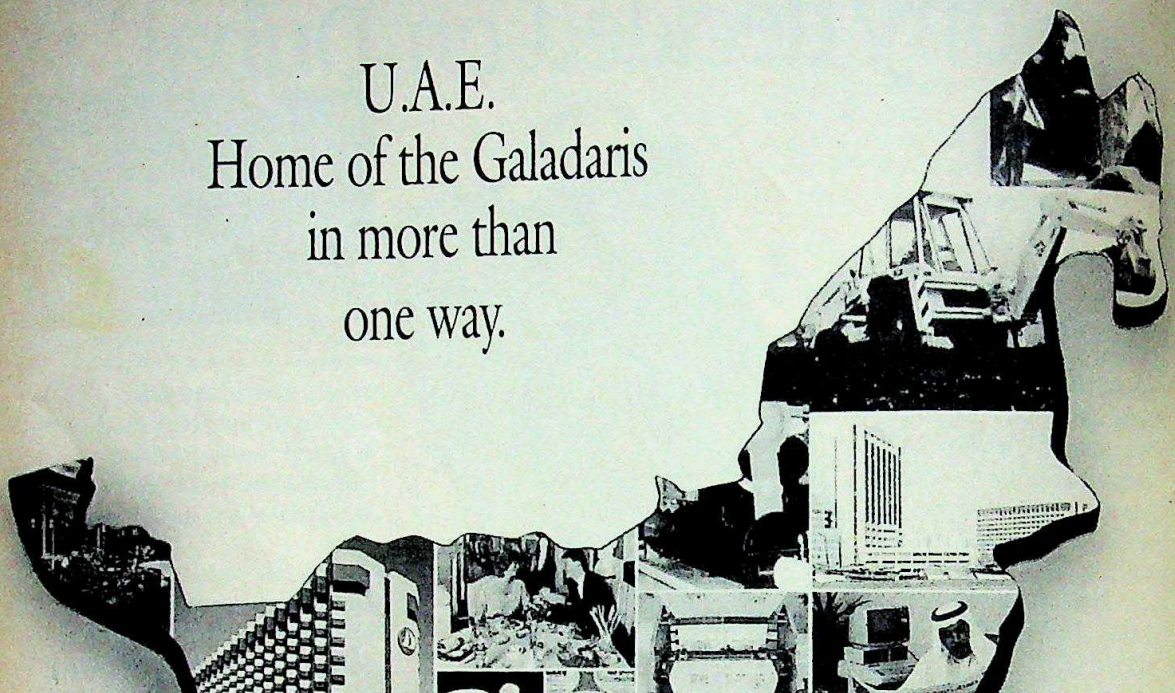
Mail to: Dubai Commerce and Tourism Promotion Board
P.O. Box 594, Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Tel: (971-4) 511600. Fax: (971-4) 511711. Tlx: 46182

INT

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

U.A.E.
Home of the Galadaris in more than one way.



Our close identification with the growth and aspirations of the Emirates dates back to our 19th Century pearling ventures from Dubai.

This historical commitment to trade and commerce in the Arabian Gulf continues to this day. Early trading skills have provided the foundation for today's professionalism.

A fact adequately reflected in the diverse activities of the Galadari Group: from the morning newspaper to the 24-hour coffee shop in a 5-Star hotel, the Galadari name is an integral part of life in the U.A.E.

- Galadari Airconditioning
- Galadari Automobiles
- Galadari Engineering
- Galadari Hotels Division
- Galadari Ice Cream
- Galadari Marketing Services
- Galadari Printing & Publishing
- Galadari Real Estate
- Galadari Trucks & Heavy Equipment

mazda

Ford

galaxy ICE CREAM

BASKIN 31 ROBBINS

dubai INTER·CONTINENTAL PLAZA

Khaleej Times

KOMATSU

Galadari Brothers

Corporate Headquarters : Intercontinental Plaza
P.O. Box 138, Dubai, UAE. Tel: 281191, Fax: 211918, Tlx: 45443 GABROS EM

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Al Jasim/GAL/19

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

JEBEL ALI

Dizzy Heights

IF the freedom to do business in Dubai is heady, it is intoxicating in the sprawling Jebel Ali complex. Unlike anywhere else in the Arab world, the Jebel Ali Free Zone Authority (JAFZA) allows 100 per cent foreign ownership, no import duties, 100 per cent repatriation of capital and profits, no personal income taxes, no currency restrictions, no corporate taxes as applied in Dubai with a renewable 15-year guarantee, cheap energy, no recruitment restrictions, administrative support and state-of-the-art telecommunication support. Says Marketing Director Edward Butler: "It is a free zone, in the widest sense of the term."

And he is certainly right. Because the concessions in Jebel Ali have attracted some of the most demanding foreign multinationals. Says Air India Regional Director Michael Mascarenhas: "This is another manifestation of the enlightened economic leadership that the rulers here provide."

As a result even Indian companies are considering investments there. Predictably, the Government of India has not granted clearance for two megaprojects: Emirates Narmada and Reliance Industries. The Narmada phosphoric acid plant (capacity: 500 tonnes a day; cost: $90 million) is finding financing difficult, while Reliance (capacity: six million tonnes annually; cost: $900 million; export potential: Rs 500 crore) is also unlikely to get an okay for its project.

Meanwhile, smaller Indian companies have already invested in Jebel Ali, as have garment manufacturers of Indian origin from the Far East. While the volume of dollar investment from Indians is low, Butler says in terms of the number of companies operating in Jebel Ali, India ranks among the top. The companies include large corporations like Jenson and Nicholson, Tata Exports and Eagle Flask, and smaller units like Bhatia Brothers, Neel Kamal Apparel and Poonam International. Located 45 km west of Dubai city on the Dubai-Abu Dhabi highway, the entire Jebel Ali complex costs $2.5 billion (Rs 43 billion)—this includes creating the largest man-made harbour in the world, with 67 berths and 15 km of quays. Jebel Ali's real advantage is its strategic location—it is about 7,500 miles away from either China or Europe which makes distribution easy and cheap.

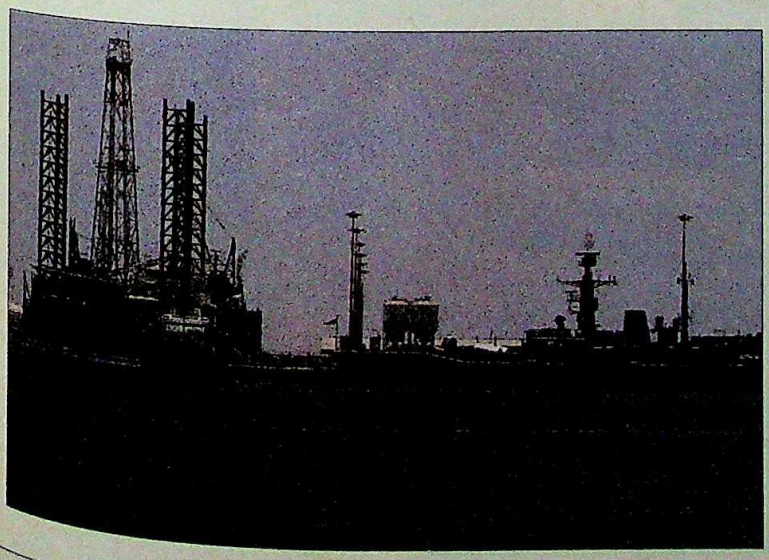
As a result, over 260 companies have already set up shops, with a total investment of $600 million (Rs 1,200 crore)—most of the projects being small manufacturing or distribution centres. But if the progress is not as spectacular as expected, it is partly due to political instability in the region and because of the lack of power.

Though one of JAFZA's promises is to provide abundant, cheap energy, businessmen point out that Dubai is short of power and gas needed for energy-intensive industries. And it is believed that as the Jebel Ali power station is already stretched to full capacity Dubai will need injections of gas from abroad if Jebel Ali is to meet its present projections. In view of Dubai's historical rivalry with Abu Dhabi, it is unlikely that Abu Dhabi will be the source for energy. A likelier source: Qatar (a good 400 km away). Another possible source is Iran, but its political instability makes a deal difficult.

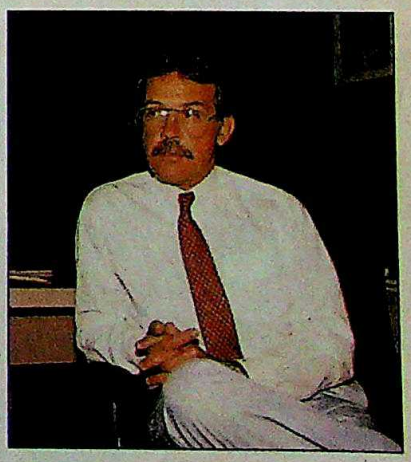
What Dubai's authorities are banking on is that Jebel Ali will have taken off in 25 years' time, when Dubai's own oil runs out. By then, the infrastructure of Jebel Ali will have set the terms for a new economic order. Judged by the way Dubai functions, it is hardly a pipe-dream.

"The Jebel Ali complex is a free zone, in the widest possible sense of the term."

▼ EDWARD BUTLER: *Marketing director, JAFZA*



Jebel Ali Port: strategic location



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

MARKETS

Spending Spree

PLUSH, ornate decor. Steel-framed escalators. Piped music. Thousands of shoppers milling around. Mannequins clad in high-fashion gear. Electronic gadgets falling off the shelves.

No, this is not the ritzy Bloomingdales of New York. But the world's ultimate shopping fantasy—Al-Ghurair Centre in Deira Dubai. What's more, the place is chock-a-block with Indian shoppers. Says Satish Khanna, marketing manager of the shopping centre: "Indians are some of the biggest buyers here."

Aside from the Al-Ghurair Centre Indians also throng little shops in Bur Dubai to pick up "essentials" like TVs, VCRs, two-in-ones, hair dryers and even disposable diapers. But what tops the popularity list is gold. According to unofficial estimates nearly 80 per cent of the 175 tonnes of gold imported into Dubai annually is re-exported to India. The other big draw is the Dubai Duty Free (DDF)—quite literally a cave of Ali Baba's treasures which includes liquor, chocolates, perfumes, electronics and photographic equipment. There is even a supermarket—Food-Plus—to lure the Indians ready to shop till they drop.

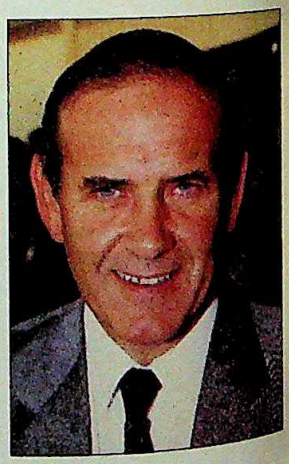
It is the sheer economics of it that makes shopping at the DDF profitable: a bottle of Cointreau liqueur, which costs $16 at the Bombay Duty Free, costs half as much in Dubai. Annually, the DDF sells 211 million cigarettes, 1.17 million bottles of liquor, 72,000 watches, 21,000 two-in-ones, 94,000 audio cassettes, 21,000 video cassettes, 20,000 calculators, 16,480 cameras, 87 tonnes of Toblerone, 81 tonnes of Tang and 401,350 bottles of perfumes. The proof of the prices is in the turnover: in 1990, the half-yearly turnover has already exceeded the target reaching Dh 17,50,00,000 (Rs 840,000,100). Says General Manager Colm McLaughlin: "The sales to passenger traffic ratio has increased enormously."

But perhaps the *coup de grace* is the DDF's "Finest Surprise"—a car raffle. At Dh 500 (Rs 2,400), the raffle ticket gives a passenger with a boarding card a 1,000 to 1 chance of getting a car—which could be a Toyota Lexus, a spanking BMW or a gleaming Porsche.

Just four months ago, the winner was an Indian. What should she do with it? Illustrating how well Dubai's merchants know the Indian system, one resident said: "If she's smart, she'll sell it and settle it in a *hawala* transaction." No wonder some of Dubai's residents call Dubai the cleanest suburb of Mumbai.

"The sales to passenger traffic ratio has increased enormously."

▼ COLM MCLAUGHLIN: *General Manager*



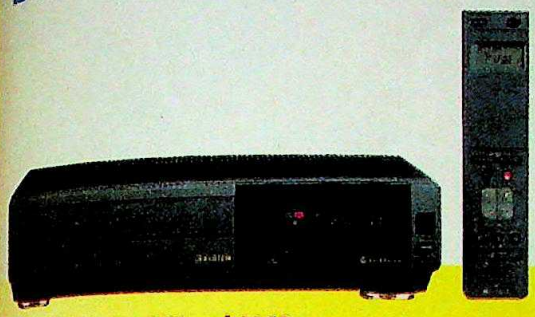
The Duty Free Shop: shoppers' paradise

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

World's First – A CLAIM WE MAKE OFTEN

Being first has been a way of life at Hitachi. This year alone Hitachi has introduced the world's first **Auto Head Cleaning System** for Video Cassette Recorders and Players, the world's first **Video Camera with Flashlight** and the world's first **Laptop Multi-System VCR-cum-TV.**



M748 4 Head VCR

- Auto Head Cleaning System
- DA-4 head for recording and playback in SP (Standard Play) and LP (Long Play) modes (3 hour cassette records for 6 hours in LP).
- Allows playback of NTSC 4.43 and NTSC on Pal TV
- Built-in Title making facility
- On-Screen Display **(OSD)**

VM-3380

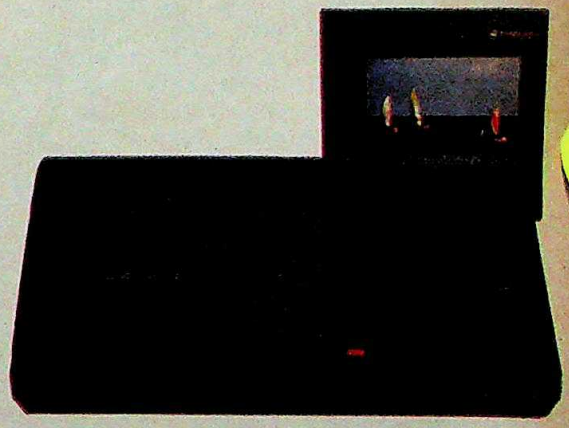
- Twin Beam Infrared Auto Focus
- Programmable Synchro-Editing
- F 1.4, x 8 Power Zoom Lens
- Minimum Illumination only **7 lux**
- Ear Monitor Speaker
- Space saving collapsible handle
- Plus other standard features

M728 VCR

- Auto Head Cleaning System
- Digital auto tracking
- 8-programme/1-year timer
- On-Screen Display **(OSD)**

P70 VCP

- Auto Head Cleaning System
- Digital tracking
- Auto play, auto operate-on, auto rewind shut-off
- Also available: P75 with recording facility



LC50

- Multi-System VCR-cum-TV
- Takes a Full Size VHS Cassette
- Operates on rechargeable battery, car cigarette lighter and AC mains.
- Built-in speaker. Also Earphones.
- Weighs only 3.4 kgs.

HQ VHS

HITACHI

EROS ELECTRICALS
P.O. Box 1184, Dubai (UAE)

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Meeting the challenges of an ever changing market

Jumbo Electronics

Jumbo, the flagship company of the Chhabria Group of Companies, with a turnover of over US $ one Billion, was started 16 years ago in Dubai. Today, Jumbo represents a wide and varied range of internationally acclaimed brands, and has notched up an impressive turnover of over US $ 200 million.

Clear foresight

Recognizing the potential of a rapid growth area, Jumbo established itself and grew with the nation. Between a highly professional management and a crack marketing team, Jumbo is often the first to perceive an opportunity and react to it. Gaining ground, not just in the Middle East, but all over the world.

World-wide network

Jumbo has offices in the UK, USA, Japan, HongKong, Singapore, Taiwan, and Korea. Constantly monitoring global needs and responding with the right product in the right market. In fact, Jumbo has effectively penetrated even difficult markets where multi-national companies have not been able to enter.

Unbeatable range

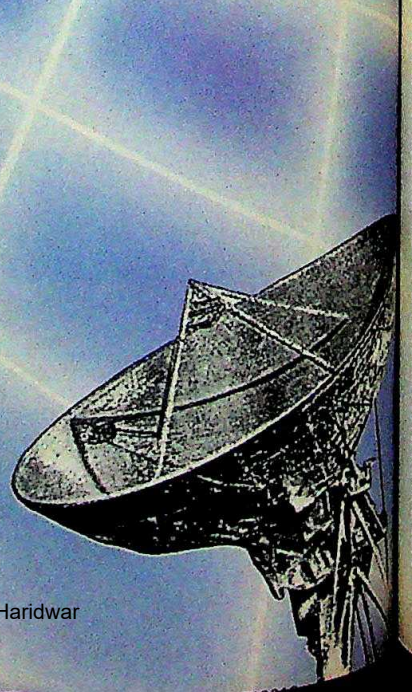
Jumbo markets everything from highly sophisticated communication equipment to the latest in audio-video products, photo copiers, air-conditioners and even cookers. Operating under ten divisions, Jumbo represents Sony, Ricoh, Casio, Brother, Supra, Krups and Electrolux, in short, the entire gamut of electronics and electrical products.

Manufacturing base

Never one to rest on their laurels, Jumbo did not stop at being the No.1 electronics and electrical trading company in the Gulf. They set up their own manufacturing base. Adapting the latest technology to suit specific market conditions. Jumbo today manufactures a host of high quality home appliances and has plans to go into high-tech electronic products.

New challenges

For Jumbo a challenge is always welcome. Which is probably why it has been such a grand success. With a feel of the pulse of this ever-changing market, Jumbo stays a step ahead in the race for global presence. It is this ability of boldly facing new challenges that keeps Jumbo way ahead of the rest.



jumbo

JUMBO ELECTRONICS CO.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

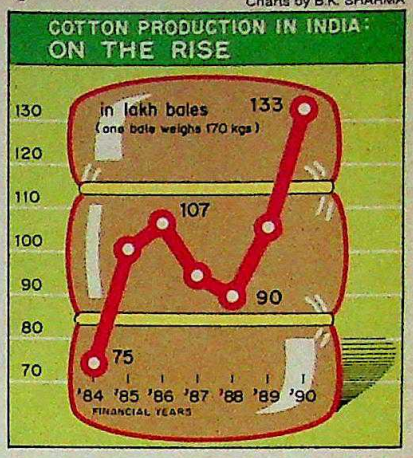
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

TEXTILE INDUSTRY

Cotton Makes a Comeback

Disproving the prophets of doom, the cotton textile industry is in an upbeat mood after years of stagnation.

Charts by B.K. SHARMA



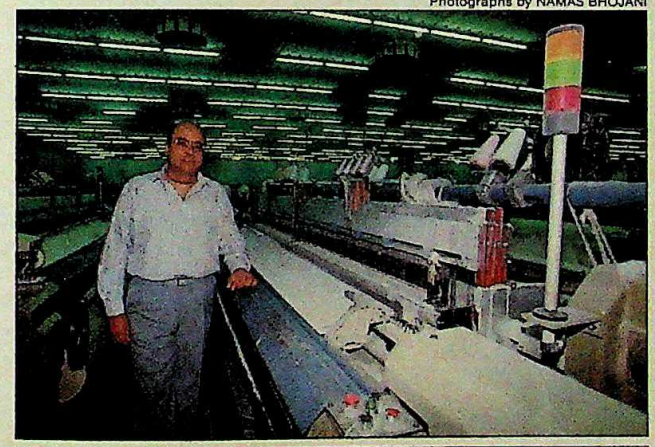
COTTON may not be king yet. But its journey back from exile has begun. Riding a wave of stable cotton prices after a bumper harvest, a buoyant export market, rising domestic demand thanks to three successive good monsoons and improved labour relations, the cotton textile industry is again on the upswing. The deafening clatter at spinning and weaving plants now has a sharper edge. The colours at processing units run faster and deeper. "After a prolonged summer of sweat and heat, spring has set in," declared Coimbatore textile magnate G. Varadaraj at last fortnight's annual general meeting of the Indian Cotton Mills' Federation (ICMF). Rohit Mehta, the new chairman of the federation, adds that the cotton textile industry can now look forward to better times.

The turnaround in the struggling, century-old industry is most dramatically highlighted at the Bombay Stock Exchange. After remaining depressed for long, the *Economic Times* share price index for cotton textiles has crossed 580 points, a phenomenal 360-point rise over last year. The shares of companies which appeared to be sinking in the red barely two years ago have staged sensational recoveries while the well-managed ones have posted handsome gains.

In barely one year, the share price of the Thackersey group's Hindoostan Spinning and Weaving Mills has moved from Rs 105 to Rs 2,700; of Morarjee Goculdas from Rs 160 to Rs 1,700; of Mafatlal Fine from Rs 180 to Rs 490; and of Arvind Mills from Rs 25 to Rs 97. The stock-market may not be the most reliable indicator of an industry's health, but clearly the textile sector is heading towards recovery.

Another sign of the confidence within the industry is the renewed interest in sick mills. In the last two decades, several sick mills which failed to modernise and face the challenges of a changing environment had been closed or nationalised. But now buyers are emerging for ailing or closed mills. A Bombay-based export house has reportedly taken over a major mill in Ahmedabad, once a premier textile city, which now has the largest number of sick mills. And Arvind Mills, which had broken new ground by manufacturing international quality blue denim, has acquired a closed mill in Ahmedabad and is proposing to take over two more.

Photographs by NAMAS BHOJANI



Hrishikesh Mafatlal, President, Mafatlal Fine

"In the '90s, mills will concentrate on exports, and powerlooms on local sales."

Paradoxically, even as the organised cotton and cotton-blended textile industry has achieved a turnaround, its share in the country's total cloth production has dropped further. In 1989-90, India produced 13,652 million metres of cloth, an increase of nearly 700 million metres over the two preceding years. But more than half the cloth was made by powerlooms, with mills producing just 19 per cent; the rest came from handlooms.

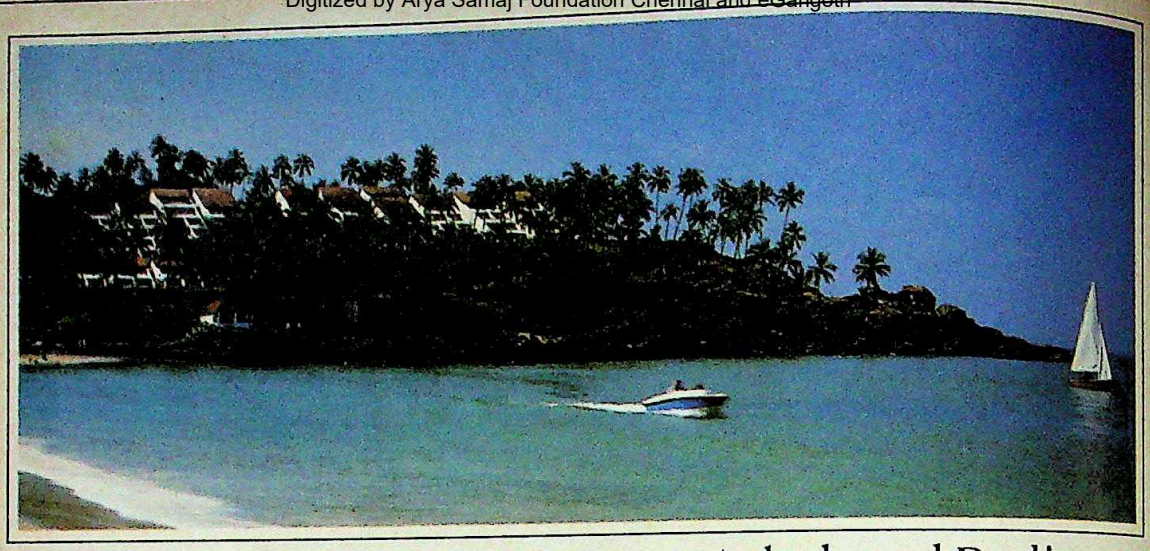
C.V. Radhakrishnan, general secretary of the ICMF, argues that the improved performance of mills despite their reduced market share isn't so strange. One reason is that the mills operate mostly in the upper end of the market where margins are higher. Another reason is that the organised sector—both weaving and spinning—had begun to modernise some years ago and was therefore in a better position to take advantage of several factors last year.

One was the bumper cotton crop of nearly 130 lakh bales. That gave cotton yarn manufacturers stable raw material prices and an uninterrupted supply. So cotton yarn production increased by 65 million kg to nearly 1,370 million kg. At the same time, two good monsoons boosted the purchasing power of the rural population which in turn sustained domestic demand for cloth. The rationalisation of duties too helped.

But perhaps the most important

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

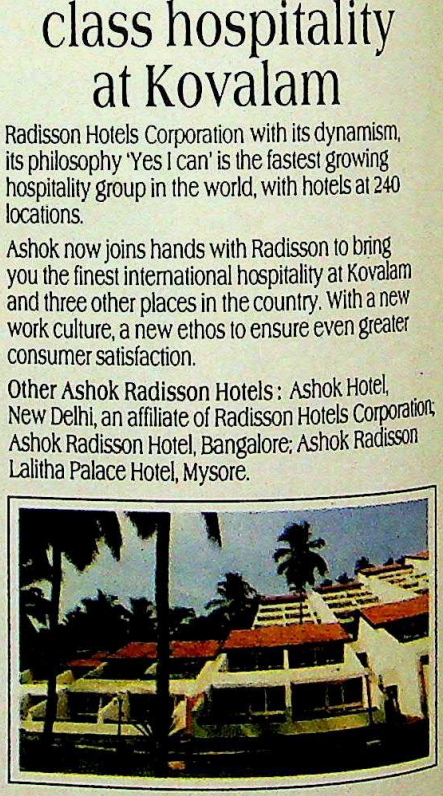


Ashok and Radisson offer you new standards of world class hospitality at Kovalam

Radisson Hotels Corporation with its dynamism, its philosophy 'Yes I can' is the fastest growing hospitality group in the world, with hotels at 240 locations.

Ashok now joins hands with Radisson to bring you the finest international hospitality at Kovalam and three other places in the country. With a new work culture, a new ethos to ensure even greater consumer satisfaction.

Other Ashok Radisson Hotels: Ashok Hotel, New Delhi, an affiliate of Radisson Hotels Corporation; Ashok Radisson Hotel, Bangalore; Ashok Radisson Lalitha Palace Hotel, Mysore.



Ashok Radisson
Beach Resort, Kovalam

Trivandrum 695522 Tel. 68010, 65323
Cables: TOURISM VIZHINJAM Telex: 0435 216 KBR IN
Fax: 62522

INDIA'S HOST TO THE WORLD

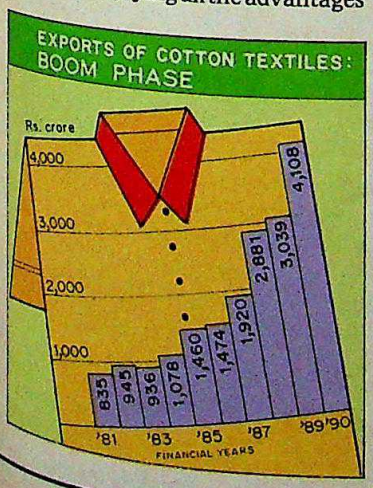
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

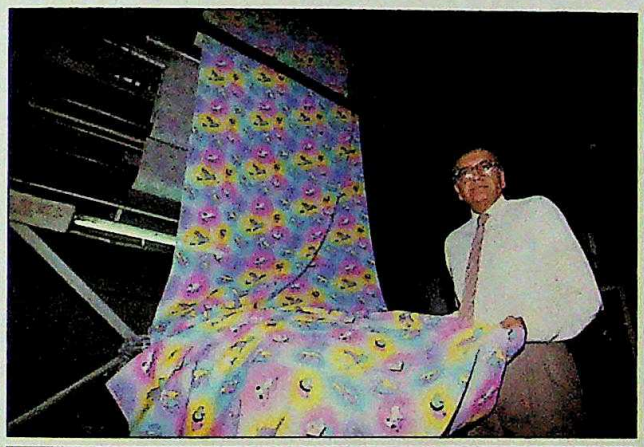
reason for the revival of the cotton textile industry's fortunes is the buoyant export market. Exports of textiles and clothing crossed Rs 6,600 crore last year, of which cotton accounted for nearly two-thirds.

Since mills can produce better quality cloth than powerlooms, they retained an edge in the export market. Direct exports by mills of yarn, fabrics and readymades jumped 40 per cent last year to nearly Rs 1,000 crore. And since India's share of the $200-billion (Rs 3,50,000 crore) world market for textiles and clothing is a meagre 2 per cent, the mills clearly have tremendous potential for growth. "The trend is clear now—in the '90s, the powerlooms will dominate the domestic market while mills turn increasingly export-oriented," says Hrishikesh Mafatlal, president of Mafatlal Fine.

If mills have concentrated on the foreign market, it's mostly because they had little option. Poor management, the failure to modernise, and restrictive government policies had left the large, integrated textile mills—with facilities for spinning yarn, weaving cloth and processing it—hopelessly adrift once small-scale powerloom units mushroomed in the '70s in towns like Bhiwandi near Bombay. Now they've spread all over the country. Powerlooms weave cloth, usually on looms discarded by mills, against orders, with the trader or now even mill owners supplying the yarn and taking the 'grey' cloth for bleaching or printing elsewhere. Enjoying all the advantages of the small-scale sector—low overheads, low wages, quick turnover and even evasion of duties—the powerlooms proved too competitive for the lumbering textile giants.



THE result has been a major structural change in the organised sector. Even as mills have modernised (almost a third of their looms are automatic now and state-of-the-art shuttleless looms have made an appearance), production is shifting from the old-style, integrated textile behemoths to independent spinning, weaving and processing units. Of more than 1,000 textile mills in existence, integrated mills now account for less than 300, while there are nearly 650 spinning and 150 weaving units.

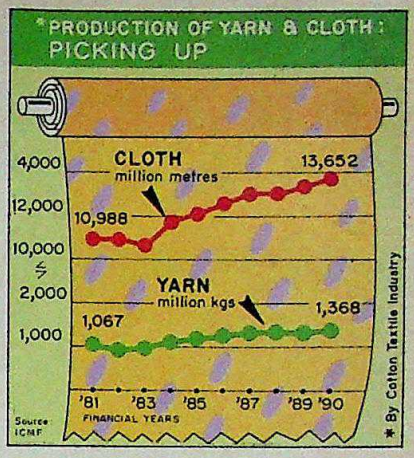


Sudhir Thackersey, Chairman, Hindoostan Mills

"To compete with powerlooms, mills have no option but to restructure."

Restructuring isn't the only problem, though. While standards have gone up in the spinning and weaving sectors, India still remains very backward at the beginning and end of the production chain—in the ginning of raw cotton and the processing of 'grey' cotton cloth. So much of the cloth produced by mills still falls well short of high quality international standards—with exceptions like the giant Century Textiles of the Birla group, which exports as much as 95 per cent of its production.

Ginning units (which separate seeds from cotton) are small-scale operations located in district towns. The Government now plans to levy a cotton surcharge to create a national financing fund to modernise gins, but



there is considerable confusion since ginning comes under the Agriculture Ministry which has a totally different perspective from the Textile Ministry.

Modernising processing plants too is of critical importance, since the value addition at this stage is the maximum—more than 50 per cent. The problem is that modernisation calls for large-scale import of machinery; that made in India is limited in both quantity and quality.

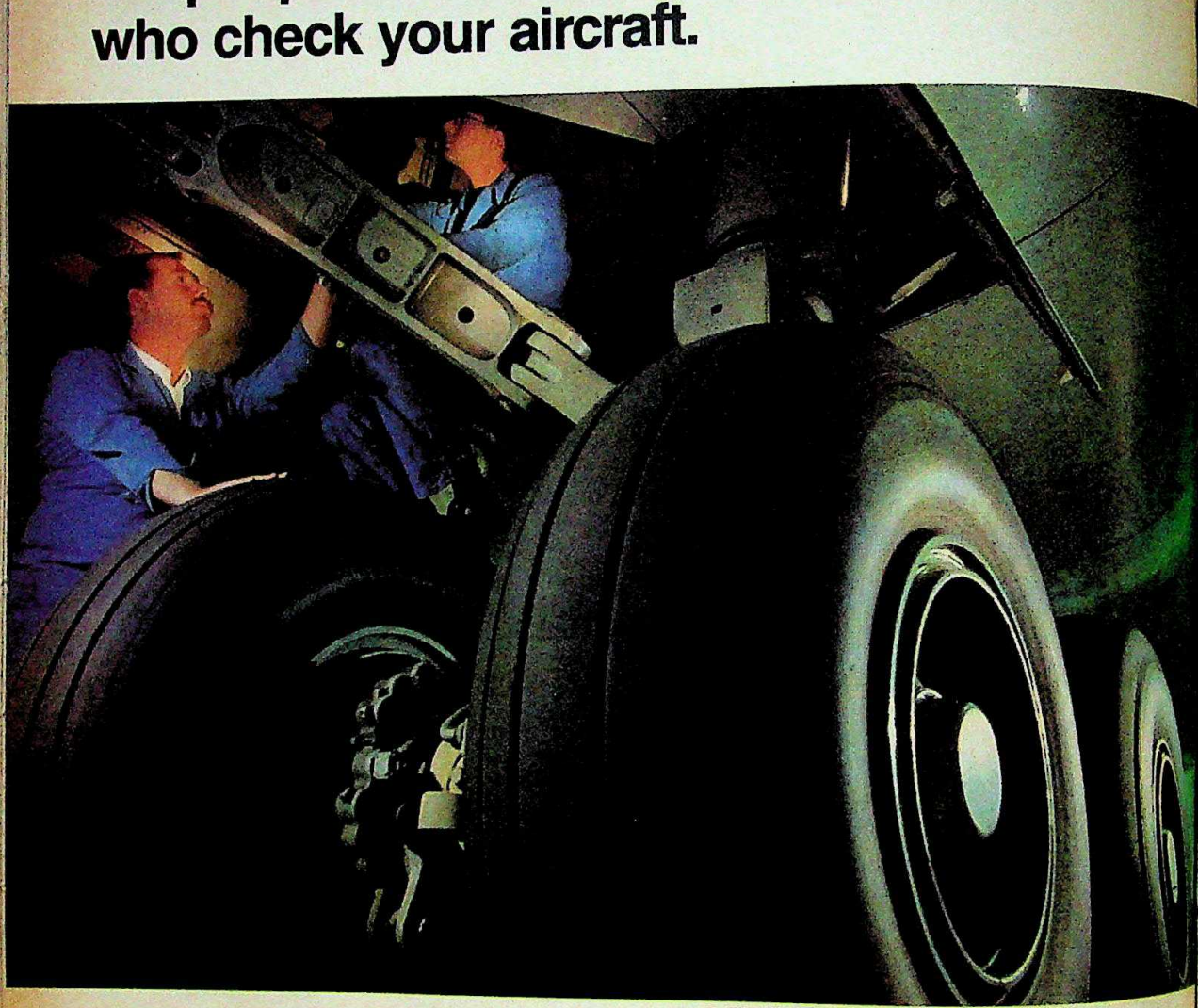
Mill owners have other complaints. The Government's decision to raise the interest rate on modernisation loans from 11.5 per cent to 14 per cent, they say, will slow their attempts at modernisation. "It's a pity, looking at the kind of competition we are facing in exports even from smaller countries like Pakistan, where the textile industry enjoys major concessions," says R.H. Batlivala, vice-president (marketing) at Bombay Dyeing.

Also, mills are now finding it extremely difficult to acquire new looms for upgrading weaving units. With heavy demand and just a handful of reputable manufacturers, deliveries can take between three and five years. The delays will hamper most mills gearing up to modernise, including the giant, public sector National Textile Corporation *(see box)*. The ICMF has asked for permission to import second-hand but modern looms from South Korea and Taiwan; it has yet to get a positive response. Mill owners fear that their competitiveness in the international market will be

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

We have people who check the people who check the people who check your aircraft.



You might well call it excessive German thoroughness that we don't let our technicians work unsupervised on an aircraft until they have completed four years' basic training and have at least eight years' practical experience.
It goes without saying, however, that their work is still inspected by an even more experienced technician who, in turn, is checked by a highly qualified engineer. And, after all that, there is the independent inspector from the technical control department who reports directly to the Board of Management.
We call this Lufthansa's contribution to inflight relaxation – it's something we simply owe you and ourselves.

Lufthansa

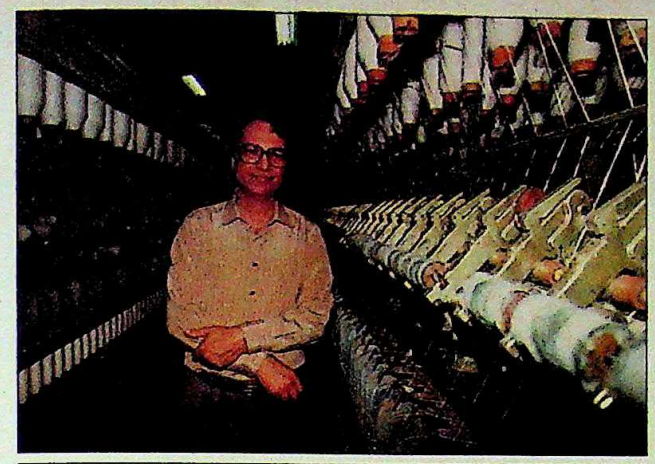
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

affected as a result.

On the domestic front, though, the news is cheering. In spite of the challenge from synthetics, cotton fabrics still account for nearly three-quarters of the Indian market. And demand for them is rising.

Sanjay Lalbhai, managing director of Arvind Mills, says that large mills will have to concentrate on "niche products" for the domestic market—like denim, or high-quality cotton fabrics, saris and readymade garments. The Rs 150-crore denim business, he maintains, is growing at the rate of 25 per cent annually, and denim hasn't even entered the rural market yet. "Someone has to do a Nirma for denim. The person who mass markets jeans at below Rs 150 a pair will grab an additional Rs 70-crore market," Lalbhai says.



Mohanlal Piramal, Chairman, Piramal Mills

"Fashionable cotton garments are favourites of upmarket urbanites."

In the urban market, upper class consumers have taken to fashionable cotton garments in a big way. Observes Bhagwan Lekhaj, exporter and owner of Cotton World, a Bombay boutique: "Indians are not so formal anymore. The West is shifting to cotton, and it is having an inevitable impact on fashion trends here." For an industry which seemed to have no future less than a decade ago, the signs on fashion street now clearly promise a very comfortable ride. —M. RAHMAN

NTC

Surge of Hope

THE public sector National Textile Corporation (NTC) has for long embodied the problems facing the cotton textile industry: antiquated machinery, surplus labour and a poor product. Set up in 1974 to run sick mills taken over from the private sector, NTC today controls 124 units through its nine subsidiaries. Its turnover last year was around Rs 1,200 crore. Accumulated cash losses were close to Rs 1,500 crore, all absorbed over the years by a benign Union Government.

But the turnaround in the textile industry has brought a glimmer of hope. Three subsidiaries have posted a net profit. And last year, the corporation cut its net losses to less than Rs 200 crore, down by over a third from 1988-89. This year, according to Acting Chairman, V. Sundaram, NTC plans to increase its turnover to Rs 1,500 crore while cutting losses to less than Rs 100 crore. "If all goes as planned, we should be out of the red in a couple of years," he says.

The first steps have already been taken. When prices of cotton yarn shot up, NTC stepped up production in its spinning units, increasing last year's yarn sales by over Rs 100 crore to Rs 480 crore. These units spun the three subsidiaries out of the red. At the same time, it closed many uneconomic looms and wove more profitable varieties of cloth. So, while cloth production came down, the revenue from cloth sales rose to Rs 615 crore, a jump of Rs 50 crore.

Not all the mills are doing equally badly. Sundaram points out that 25 mills run by the West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh subsidiaries account for 80 per cent of the losses. The Madhya Pradesh subsidiary also lags behind.

Once deeply in the red, NTC has taken advantage of the textile boom to make a comeback.

One reason for the poor performance is that NTC's 1.63-lakh-strong work-force is far in excess of its requirements. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India pointed out that NTC utilises almost twice as many workers on its spindles and looms as the industry's norm. The company's management estimates that it can easily dispense with 30,000 workers. But the cost of this pruning is around Rs 200 crore, almost a quarter of its ambitious Rs 834-crore modernisation plan.

NTC plans to raise much of this from public financial institutions, with just Rs 180 crore coming from the Government. The five-year modernisation plan involves replacing outdated looms with automatic ones, and revamping the now profitable spinning sections. This would allow NTC to increase its share of the export market (currently a modest Rs 40 crore).

Even as the corporation tries to raise funds, the managers of its Bombay mills cannot escape a supreme irony: they are sitting on an asset with the potential to totally transform their companies. According to an NTC estimate, the surplus land with its Bombay mills is worth a whopping Rs 120 crore. But opposition from unions worried that land sales may be a prelude to closure has proved an insurmountable barrier. Just last fortnight, the Government reportedly vetoed the proposed sale of Rs 30-crore worth of mill land.

In upgrading its product, however, NTC has made some headway. It is also attempting to change its image as a producer of colourless fabrics with a Rs 1.5-crore ad campaign. At long last, it seems as if NTC can finally hope to weave a pattern of profitability. —M. RAHMAN

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

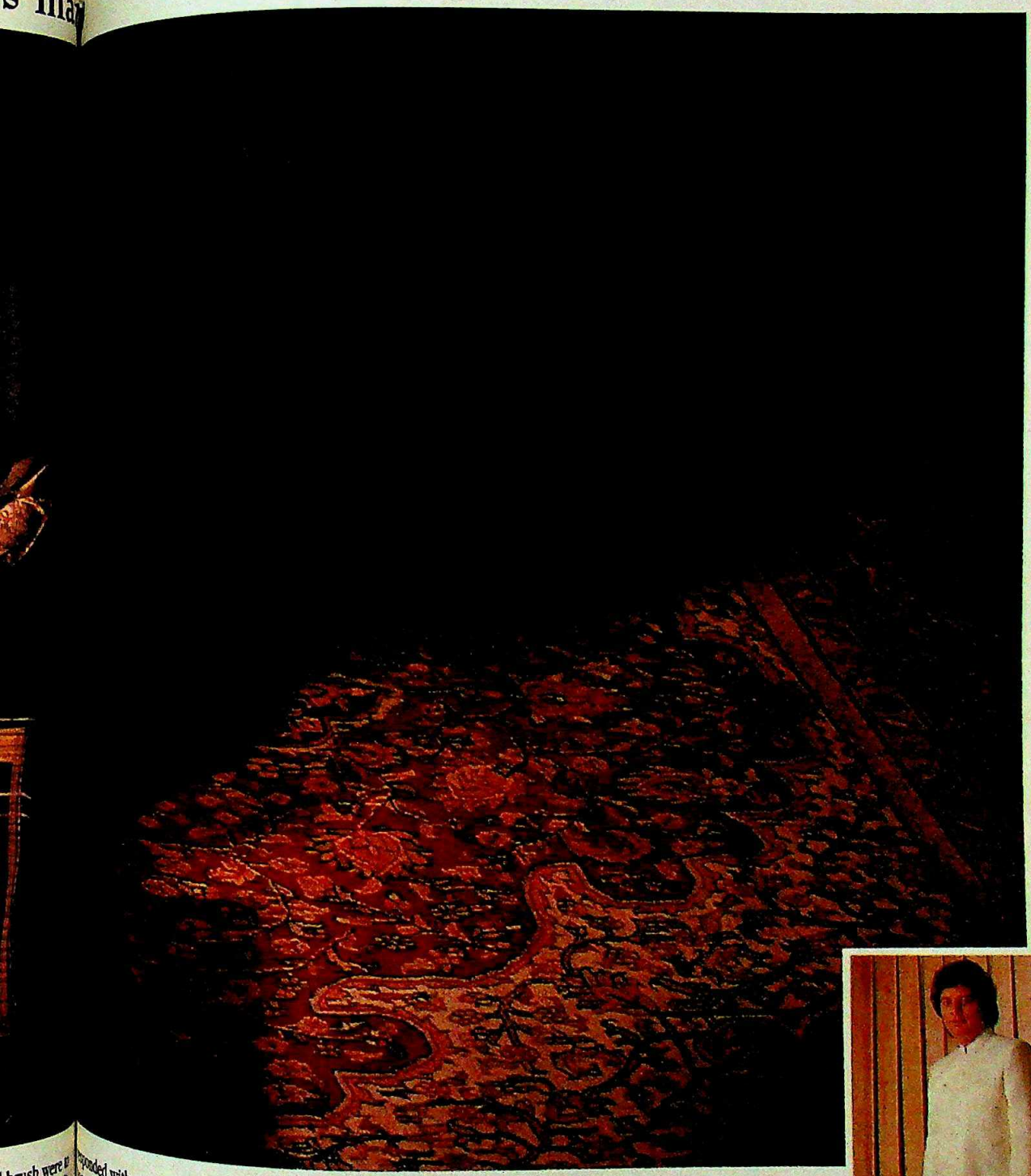
You don't need the magic of a maestro's touch to be a Raymond's ma

What paint and brush were t
Picasso, the Santoor is to Pandi
Shiv Kumar Sharma – an extens
of a supremely creative will. In h
inspired hands, the Santoor has
transcended rhythm and melod
and sings to the world in the
inspired language of his belove
Kashmir.

The world has, in turn,

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



l brush were u
oor is to Pandi
na – an extension
eative will. In the
he Santoor has
nm and melodi
world in the
e of his belove

in turn,

rgonded with accolade and
honour: the Sangeet Natak Academy
rd, Honorary Citizenship of the
y of Baltimore, Indian Classical
sic's first Platinum Disc for
e Call of the Valley and special
formances before the House of
ds in Britain, and the Queen of
Holland, Chief Guest of India's
sident, at the Hague.

On social occasions, when heads turn at his presence, it is certainly *not* because of his flawless sherwani which may just happen to be tailored from Raymond's sparkle polyester, wool and silk. A fabric with impeccable feel and fall, it never fails to sing the praises of its wearer.

You don't have to be a musical genius to be a Raymond's man. For that matter, you don't even have to be a Raymond's man.

... but it helps.

Raymond's

Never say no to life.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ALL -IN- ONES

GREAT SOUND ▲ GREAT LOOKS
GREAT POWER GREAT PERFORMANCE
GREAT RECORDING

YES, WHY SETTLE FOR A TWO-IN-ONE, WHEN YOU CAN GET A VIDEOCON ALL-IN-ONE?

TURBO POWER — SX 48 • Detachable speakers • 60 watts PMPO • Hi-speed dubbing • 3 band graphic equaliser • Rs.3375/-

SUPER WOOFER — SF 44 • Bass Boost selector • 60 watts PMPO • Hi-speed dubbing • 5 band graphic equaliser • Rs.3650/-

AUTO REVERSE — SF 62 • Continuous play • 20 watts PMPO • Hi-speed dubbing • 3 band graphic equaliser • Rs.2975/-

Prices inclusive of all taxes

TSA-B-VIL-U5590

VIDEOCON

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

BANKING IN THE RED

THE New Bank of India and the United Commercial Bank (UCO) together incurred a loss of around Rs 50 crore during 1989-90—the first time since nationalisation in 1969 that any of the country's 28 public sector banks have gone into the red, according to sources in the Ministry of Finance. In New Bank's case, certain interest payments had been added twice to convert a loss of nearly Rs 10 crore to a 'profit' of around Rs 1 crore. Four officials of the bank have been suspended for this 'error' and the bank's auditors will be questioned. New Bank's chief executive had been removed earlier. Besides New Bank and UCO, eight more nationalised banks' losses exceed the sum of their equity capital and reserves. In other words, these banks eroded their deposits to cover losses.

India's banking system is bursting at the seams for many reasons. Among them are low equity capital, higher incidence of frauds, manipulation of accounts, lax monitoring and low recovery of dues. Having written off large amounts of loans to farmers, the Government faces an uphill task in toning up bank functioning.

DIFFERENT STROKES

WHEN Bilgi Ratnakar, the former Canara Bank chairman quit the bank in June 1988, he was expected to join the Finance Ministry or head the State Trading Corporation and the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation. Instead, the CBI was asked to inquire into the circumstances in which he had rented his Bangalore house to the boss of a multinational. Now Ratnakar has branched out on his own. In July, he floated two companies in Bangalore, Fairgrowth Financial Services and Fairgrowth Home Finance; a third, Fairgrowth Investments will be incorporated soon. They will have a combined paid-up capital of Rs 19 crore, of which the promoters will contribute Rs 7.6 crore. Joining Ratnakar will be former colleagues, K. Dharampal and K. Lakshminarayan, and K.R.N. Shenoy of Syndicate Bank. Several others, including V. Krishnamurthy, former chairman, Steel Authority of India and T.P.G. Nambiar of the BPL group, have been invited to join the boards of these companies.

EXPANSION PLANS

HAVING launched Spartek Granites, a Rs 19-crore, 100 per cent export-oriented unit at Gudapakkam near Madras, the Rs 27-crore Spartek Ceramics Ltd now wants to set up a Rs 25-crore tableware project in collaboration with the German firm Netzsch to compete with the Hitkari range of pottery. The project is expected to come on stream early next year. Another Rs 15-crore sanitary ware unit is to be set up with know-how from the ailing Neycer India.

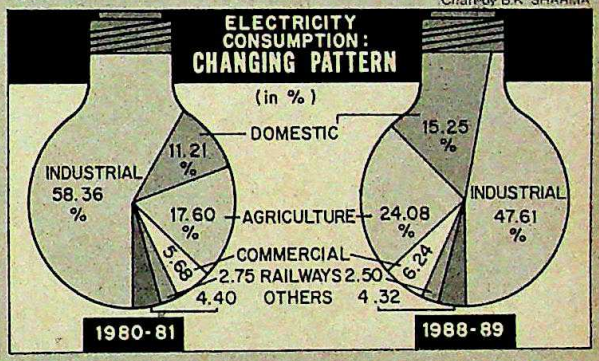
BRANCHING OUT

THE Rs 1,000-crore Escorts group, which produces engineering goods like tractors, now intends to get into an unrelated area: food processing. The Nanda family controlled group, plans to set up a Rs 6-crore plant to turn out coated chocolates and breakfast foods in collaboration with a German company, Doctor Oetker. It also plans to enter the area of meat processing. It will establish a buffalo rearing centre and a modern slaughter house with German know-how. If this export-oriented venture is successful, it will set up a leather tannery as an adjunct to the meat-processing complex. The investment tag: Rs 100 crore.

BALANCE OF POWER

THE pattern of power consumption in the country has been steadily undergoing a metamorphosis. Interestingly, the share of electricity consumed by the industrial sector has fallen by over 10 per cent during the last decade, according to the Department of Power in the

Chart by B.K. SHARMA



Energy Ministry. One reason for this is that industrial units have been installing captive generation facilities to beat power cuts. Also the share of the railways in total power consumption has come down. On the other hand, households and commercial establishments like shops have consumed a higher proportion. And the agricultural sector has increased its share of electricity consumption by nearly 7 per cent between 1980-81 and 1988-89.

PROPOSAL SHELVED

AIR India has for the moment shelved a proposal to sell its loss-making subsidiary, the Hotel Corporation of India (HCI)—which owns the Centaur group of hotels—to an associate public sector organisation, the India Tourism Development Corporation. The airline has appointed Citibank to revalue HCI's properties whose historical value is around Rs 41 crore; the current market value being easily three to four times higher. After the revaluation is completed, Air India intends selling HCI's equity capital to any hotel company, Indian or foreign, which has international marketing experience in travel and tourism. If necessary, more than 51 per cent of HCI's equity will be off-loaded after obtaining necessary government permission. Such a strategy, it is hoped, will revive HCI which has so far accumulated losses of Rs 20 crore.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

INDUSTRIAL POLICY

Listing Lethargy

Priority on sectors still not spelt out

IT was the last day of May, and also the concluding day of the budget session of Parliament. As the proceedings drew to an end, Industry Minister Ajit Singh hurriedly got up to announce a brave new series of policy measures. The intention: to free industry from bureaucratic shackles and carry the process of economic liberalisation in India further.

However, the policy proposals lacked a crucial element. They did not include positive and negative lists which would make transparent the areas where private industry—both Indian and foreign—was welcome and the areas where it was not. And nearly three months after the announcement of the new economic policy was made, the National Front Government continues to dither about the finalisation of these lists.

Since June, official spokesmen have been periodically asserting that the lists will be released "any day now". After weeks of acrimonious arguments, the day of reckoning seems to have finally arrived. Ajit Singh told INDIA TODAY that two lists were under consideration: a positive list specifying the sectors where foreign capital and technology would be desirable and a negative one meant for domestic industry which would state the areas where licensing provisions would be mandatory (*see interview*). These lists are to be announced soon.

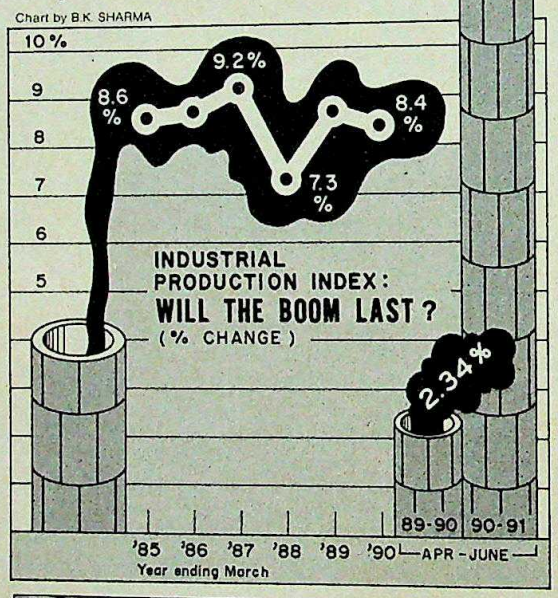
The very character of the minority Government in power has, to an extent, been responsible for the delay in finalising the lists. Having done the rounds of the ministries of industry, finance, commerce, planning, steel and mines, energy, food processing, civil supplies and others, the draft lists underwent several modifications before they were sent to the Prime Minister's Office. V.P. Singh then decided to consult the Left parties and the BJP and these confabulations were continuing till last fortnight.

The idea behind having simplified positive and negative lists of industries for licensing purposes is unexceptionable. At present there are at least half a dozen lists in existence. Under the June 1988 Exempted Industries Registration scheme, there is a negative list of 26 industries where companies cannot enter unless they first obtain a letter of intent which is later converted by the Secretariat of Industrial Approvals into an industrial licence.

Then there is the Delicensed Registration List, a positive one, which has two parts: one for companies coming under the purview of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices (MRTP) Act and another for those which do not.

Another list comprises industries in the so-called 'core sector'—which includes defence, space, nuclear energy and railways—where private investment is not encouraged. Besides, there are three more 'super core sector' lists—which include chemicals and fertilisers—under Section 22A of the MRTP Act which specify those areas which large industrial houses can enter. The existence of such a plethora of lists is guaranteed to confuse potential investors, particularly those from abroad.

Chart by B.K. SHARMA



Birla (left) and Pal: divergent points of view

To be fair, rationalising and reconciling these lists into two simplified ones was hardly an easy task. There were over 11,000 items in the Trade Classification Harmonised Nomenclature which had to be considered. While the finance and industry ministries are already using this internationally-standardised system of classification, the office of the chief controller of imports and exports in the Commerce Ministry is yet to fully switch to this system. This made comparison of the items in the lists a trifle tricky. What complicated things further was the fact that while the lists mentioned industries, licences are granted to manufacture specific products.

Moreover, there were several other hurdles to be crossed. For one, each ministry had its own point of view which had to be accommodated. So, to reconcile the different views, a core group of officials in the Industry Ministry worked late nights and drew up the lists. "It was one hell of a job trying to keep everybody happy," says a senior bureaucrat.

Compounding the problem was the fact that various industry lobbies exerted pressure in order to protect their own turf. For instance, bicycle manufacturers argued that no foreign investment should be allowed in this area since India is already the world's leading producer of bicycles.

Another crucial question was: should soft drinks be in the positive or the negative list? After all, a precedent has already been set in the case of Pepsi. Should Coca-Cola be allowed to set up a project without a licence in a backward area if the investment envis-

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

"My car moves on petrol. My engine runs on GMO."

Today's new breed of engines demand a lot more from engine oils. Petsil GMO has the highest performance rating amongst engine oils in the country. Don't risk your car to an ordinary engine oil. Insist on Petsil GMO.

Available in convenient packs of 5, 2.5 and 1 ltr., at Petrosil's stockists and leading auto spares dealers.

For further information, contact: Apeejay House, 3, Dinsha Wacha Road, Bombay 400 020. Tel: 220818.

Petrosil Oil Co. Ltd.

Associates of Gulf Oil International Co. U.S.A.

Gulf **World's First Choice. Make it yours.**

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Of what use is information technology to a man who just can't wait to get back home ?

It's an emergency. He's needed home most urgently. Obviously nothing matters more to him than his journey home. And any technology that can make railway tickets easier to book is meaningful to him. Not to mention millions like him. Information technology from Motorola is one such example. It has already helped in networking railway booking centres around the country. To give everyone the same information at the same time. Speeding up reservations. Providing accuracy. Offering conveniences like return bookings. Thus benefiting people like this man who can book a seat without even going to the railway station. At Motorola, we have the technological understanding and the prowess to develop many such advanced software and hardware solutions that can better the human experience. So that high technology isn't just relevant to Star-wars and Space Research. But also to this man.

INDIA

TOGETHER WE'LL MAKE TECHNOLOGY WORK

MOTOROLA

TWO WAY RADIOS, PAGERS, CELLULAR TELEPHONES AND SYSTEMS, DATA COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION PROCESSING EQUIPMENT SEMICONDUCTORS, DEFENCE AND AEROSPACE ELECTRONICS, AUTOMOTIVE AND INDUSTRIAL ELECTRONICS, COMPUTERS.

India Liaison Office : 822, Meridien Commercial Towers, Windsor Place, New Delhi-110 001, India. Tel : 3711549 Tlx : (31) 62902 Fax : 3718086.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

LINTAS (DELHI)/MOT (I)/2435

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

BPL · SANYO

Unmatched Picture Quality

BPL-SANYO 5000 Series VCRs & VCP

Sleek Video Systems with the latest international features. Built to last in Indian conditions. Brought to you by the people who have indigenously manufactured, sold and serviced close to **one lakh VCRs** in the country.

Call on the nearest BPL-SANYO dealer for a demonstration today.

BPL

IN PURSUIT OF PERFECTION

KAME RAO/HEWS/BPL-SANYO-011.90

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

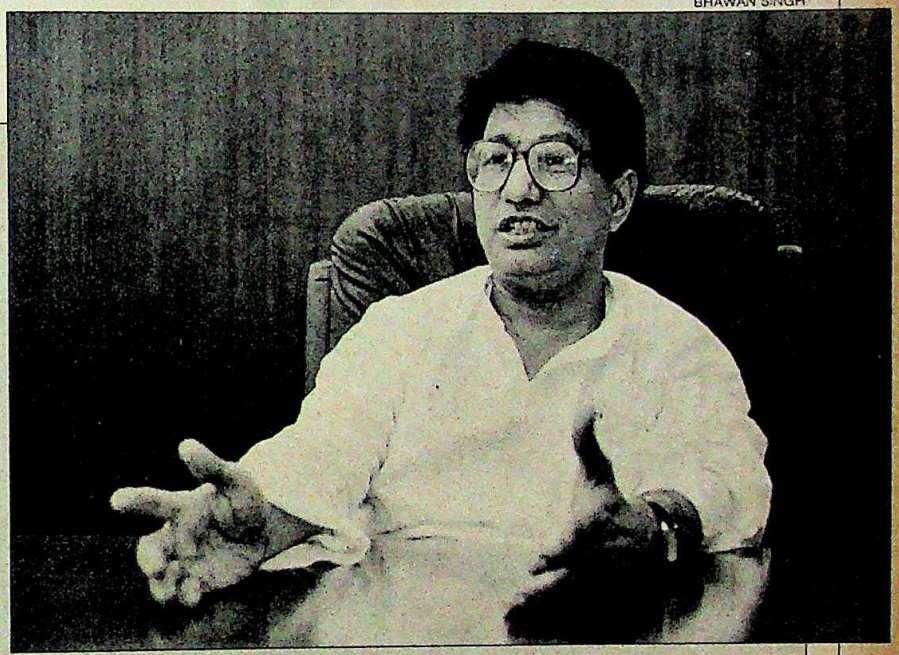
aged is below Rs 75 crore (the limit laid down under the new policy)? No, said a section. Why not, asked others.

Another dispute relates to 100 per cent export-oriented units. While the Industry Ministry wants such units to be given permission to be set up without licences, provided investment limits are not exceeded, the Commerce Ministry has a different viewpoint. Who will ensure that such units adhere to value-addition norms and not drain out foreign exchange, ministry officials questioned.

Finally, a consensus of sorts seems to have emerged. For foreign investors, there will be a positive list of industries where they will be welcome. In all other areas, they will have to adhere to stringent export obligations and phased indigenisation programmes. For the domestic industry, there will be a short negative list to replace all other lists. Besides the core sector, this list contains names of hazardous industries producing—for example, heavy chemicals, luxury goods like television sets, video cassette players, microwave ovens, vacuum cleaners, besides 'undesirable' products such as tobacco and alcohol. Observers argue that the foreign and domestic aspects of the policy should have been separated in the first place.

Opinion is divided as to what extent these lists will speed the process of liberalisation. Says S.K. Birla, president, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI): "I think the disputes about the lists are pseudo-political." He is of the opinion that there should be no lists and that Indian companies should be allowed to invite foreign investment in all areas provided there is a net earning of foreign exchange. On the other hand,

BHAWAN SINGH



Singh: lack-lustre measures

AJIT SINGH

"Policy has lost shine"

IN late-May, Industry Minister Ajit Singh announced a series of bold new policy initiatives to further liberalise the economy. But these measures have lost their lustre due to the Government's indecision in formulating the positive and negative lists for licensing of Indian and foreign industry. Singh spoke to Principal Correspondent PARANJOY GUHA THAKURTA *about the delay. Excerpts:*

Q. *Is the three-month delay in announcing the lists a consequence of infighting among different ministries and the Government's need to consult the Left parties and the* BJP?

A. There has been some delay but this has nothing to do with any quarrels or fighting. The last Parliament session was very busy as many bills had to be considered. When one considers the large number of items to be included in the lists, many ministries have to be consulted—(besides the economic ministries) there was steel, food processing, civil supplies and so on. Then there was the Planning Commission besides industry associations and friendly political parties. Moreover, there have been significant changes in the overall economic situation: the Gulf crisis and the rise in oil prices has worsened the country's balance of payments. This has affected imports of raw materials and capital goods.

Q. *While most ministries favour only a positive list of industries where companies are free from licensing restrictions, the political leadership wants to highlight the negative list because people like Chandra Shekhar have termed the new policy a sell-out to multinationals. What are your views?*

A. That (what Chandra Shekhar is saying) is just political hype. But genuine fears were certainly expressed that the policy would cause a drain on the country's scarce foreign exchange resources. We have to carefully release hard currency only when we require high technology or when there are critical gaps in production. For that we're having a positive list where foreign investment will be desirable. But for domestic entrepreneurs we're having a separate, shortish, negative list. This will give them more freedom because it will specify the areas where licensing is needed—industries producing hazardous chemicals, luxury goods, tobacco and alcohol. The rest is open to them. If we had a positive list there would have been disputes about classification of products and entrepreneurs would have to come back to the Government again and again.

Q. *But the delay has...*

A. Yes, it has taken the shine out of the policy.

Q. *Was the policy announced in a hurry to beat the US Government's Super 301 deadline?*

A. The (Super 301) threat is still there. Some people talk of the so-called World Bank line we're supposed to be following. If our own expert committees—like the Narasimhan Committee and the Abid Hussain Committee—make certain recommendations in the national interest and the World Bank later makes the same suggestions, what can we do?

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

there are some who are in complete favour of the lists. "The longer the positive list, the better it will be," says N. Sekhsaria, managing director, Gujarat Ambuja Cements, who feels that the Government is moving in the right direction.

Not everyone is equally enthusiastic though. Cadbury India chief C.Y. Pal says the announcement had initially aroused high expectations. But after people read the fine print, they discovered that the so-called policy was more a statement of intent. True enough. Even Industry Ministry spokesmen today claim that it was less of a policy and more a "series of measures". FICCI Secretary General D.H. Pai Panandiker says that there has not been a significant change in policy, "only a change in the method of implementing and administering the policy."

Foreign investors are most unhappy about the delay in the finalisation of the lists. "There's too much uncertainty," says the Delhi-based representative of a group of European companies. This uncertainty is also reflected in the relatively small quantum of foreign investment which has come into the country in the first half of the year. Over the last three years, this figure has hovered around Rs 200 crore a year. At this rate, the Government's plans of bringing in Rs 1,000 crore of foreign investment a year could well turn out to be little more than a pipe dream.

If industry today is more circumspect than what it was three months ago, the reasons are not far to seek. For one, the deterioration in the balance of payments on account of the hike in the oil import bill has necessitated drastic cuts in imports which, in turn, will slow down particular sectors of the economy. For another, the impressive 13 per cent rise in the index of industrial production in the first quarter of the fiscal year leaves little room for any complacency.

First, this rise has to be seen in the context of the negligible (2.34 per cent) rise in industrial output during April-June last year (*see chart*). Then, the rise in production is a fall-out of investment decisions that have been taken in the past. These factors, coupled with the tardy growth of the coal, petroleum and steel industries, spell bad news for the immediate future of the Indian economy despite the third good monsoon in a row.

—PARANJOY GUHA THAKURTA
with bureau reports

TAMIL NADU

Waging Wars

Labour unions fight it out

LIKE almost all political parties, the ruling DMK in Tamil Nadu has a trade union wing. Called the Labour Progressive Federation (LPF), it was set up way back in 1969—though one would scarcely guess that from its minimal influence in the state.

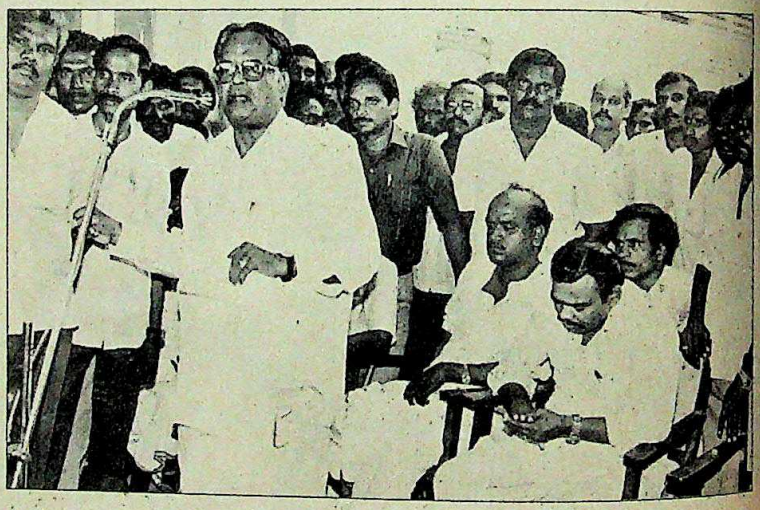
Since early this year, however, the LPF has loudly signalled its intention to carve out a bigger niche for itself. Unfortunately, labour politics in the state is highly competitive. So a bigger role for the federation must come at the expense of someone else. In this case, the loser is the Indian National Trade Union Congress (INTUC) affiliated to the Congress(I), which has had its supremacy challenged at three factories: the TVS-Suzuki two-wheeler unit in Hosur, the Murugappa group's TI cycles unit in Ambattur, and, most recently, the Rs 50-crore WS Industries' unit at Porur near Madras.

Early this year, a group of workers at the TVS-Suzuki factory attacked their colleagues, set fire to a company bus and threatened senior executives. The result: on February 27, the management clamped a lockout that was lifted only on June 4 after prolonged conciliatory efforts. On August 21, a section of workers at the TI cycles unit went on a rampage, smashing cars and ransacking the administrative block.

The cause of the two incidents is the same: union rivalry between the federation and INTUC. At both factories, INTUC is the majority union but for several months now, the federation has been claiming otherwise. When both managements refused to recognise its claim, violence followed. The TVS management has accused the federation of burning the company's bus while the federation insists that goondas were hired for the job. INTUC state Secretary G. Kalan too accuses the federation of coercing the workers to switch sides. "It is using the DMK's popular weapon—violence."

Whatever the truth, the federation's claim that it represents the majority of the workers seems to be exaggerated. At TVS-Suzuki, for instance, INTUC has been able to record an impressive 1,245 subscriptions of a total workforce of 1,500.

Observers argue that the federation is trying to cash in on the fact that its parent party is now ruling the state. C. Kuppusamy, state president, rejects the charge. He points out that in 1987, when the DMK was out of power, it had a following of 31,170 in the textile sector alone compared with INTUC's 30,358. "When a union grows popular, there is bound to be resistance," he says. "The INTUC and a few managements are stumbling blocks."



Kuppusamy: militant mood

Few industrialists would want to choose between the two unions. Says TI President Arul Vellayan: "We want to deal with one union—the majority union. But we don't want violence."

As Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi goes about trying to lure industry to Tamil Nadu, he would do well to remember that for prospective investors, nothing is as attractive as a stable labour climate. It's a lesson that neighbouring Kerala has learnt the hard way.

—ANAND VISWANATHAN

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

PHILIPS

A stunning array of international quality sound-machines ranging from compos and double-decks to integrated stereo two-in-ones. Take your pick.

32 watts P·M·P·O

DR 595

Super Tandem double deck is a sculptured beauty. High speed recording, 3 band graphic equaliser and continuous play make it a great buy.

DR 401

Stylish, good looks a great sound make it stereo two-in-one an international favourite

24 watts P·M·P·O

STEREO ·

Digitized by Ar

16 watts
P·M·P·O

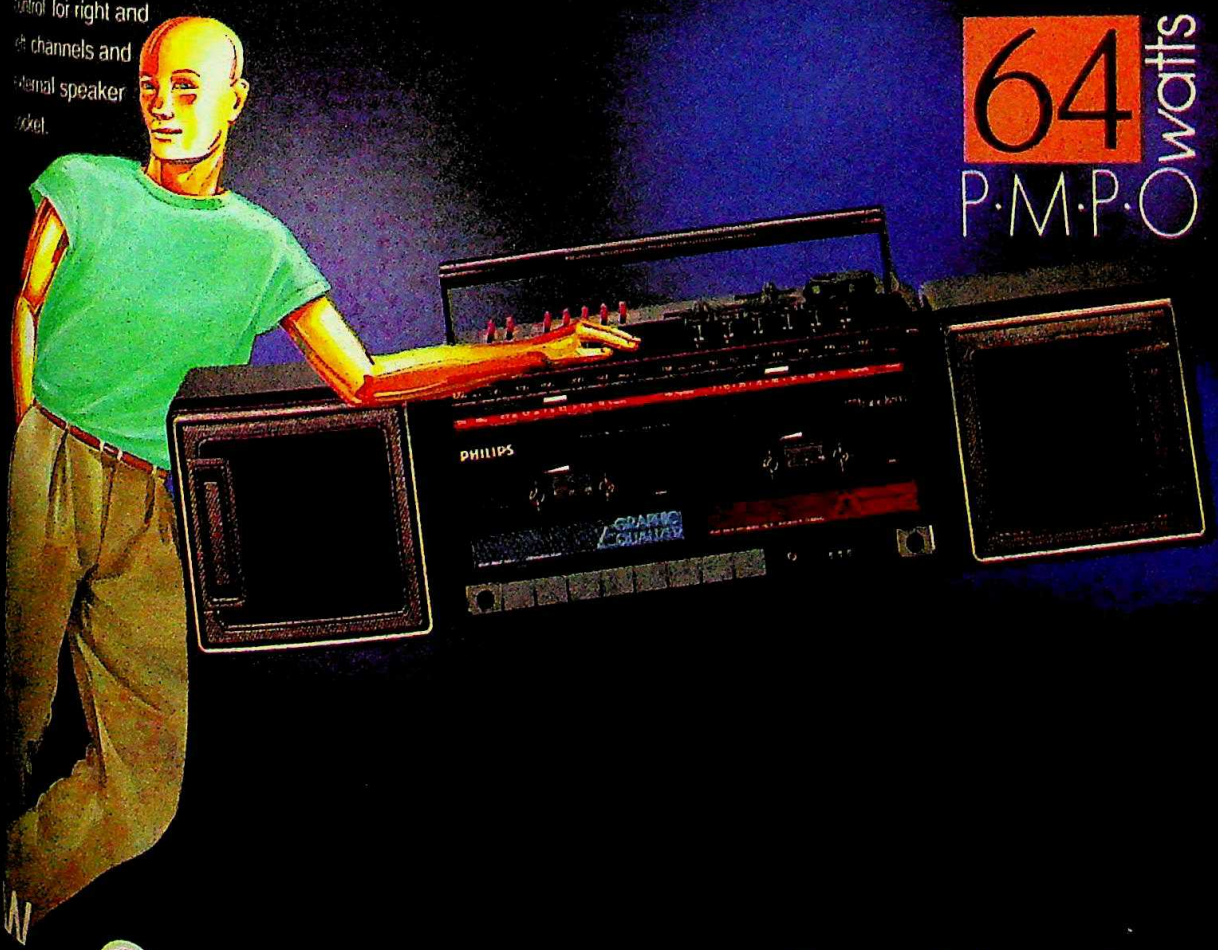
DR 403

The super economy Stereo Radio Recorder with smart good looks has features like separate volume control for right and left channels and external speaker socket.

DR 878

Mind blowing sound, sleek good looks coupled with detachable speakers, dual deck, high speed recording, 5 band graphic equaliser and continuous play. A sure bet for great times.

64 watts
P·M·P·O



CLARION B.P.100/258B

TWO-IN-ONES

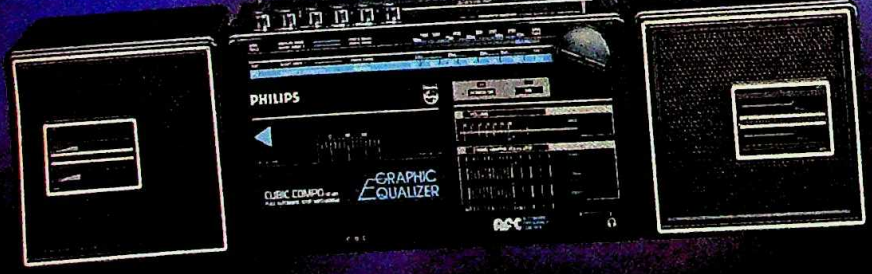
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

PHILIPS S·O·U·N·D world class

DR 668

Sheer sound power in a fabulous looking body. This compo-stereo two-in-one with detachable speakers and 3 band graphic equaliser takes music to great heights.

32 watts P·M·P·O



32 watts P·M·P·O

DR 482

Soft sculptured style and crystal clear sound make this stereo two-in-one an all time hit. Tone and balance control and one touch recording are some of the features.

Quite a mindblowing collection. Right?

To check out our entire audio showcase consisting of the largest range of stereo radio recorders ranging from Rs. 1395 to Rs. 3535 (local taxes extra), drop in to your nearest Philips dealer.

CLARION, B.P. 400 268C

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

TOOTHPASTE INDUSTRY

Tight Squeeze

Competition on the increase

TWELVE years after Balsara Health Products shook up toothpaste manufacturers with Promise, the industry is getting ready for another hectic round of competition.

Tata Oil Mills has made a maiden entry into the toothpaste market with the launch of Effermint, manufactured by the Trichur-based Dentrifrices Ltd. Market leader Colgate Palmolive (market share: 57 per cent) has added one more brand to its product line: Colgate Gel, intended to take on Close Up Blue, a gel brand put out by Hindustan Lever last October. Hindustan Ciba-Geigy has re-launched Cibaca Top, complete with the old freebies: little plastic animals with every pack of toothpaste. And reportedly, it has another toothpaste in the works. Parle Products, manufacturer of Prudent toothpaste, is considering the launch of a mouthwash, in the form of tablets or capsules. And Procter & Gamble (India) Ltd, which manufactures the internationally renowned Crest toothpaste for export, is toying with the idea of introducing it into the Indian market.

Meanwhile, Bombay-based Balsara, the hero of the last battle, is busy consolidating its two best-selling products: Promise and Babool. It's also seriously looking abroad, having recently penetrated the highly competitive US and Canadian markets with Auromere, a herbal toothpaste. Orders worth Rs 15 lakh are already in hand.

Nevertheless, the real action in the Rs 266-crore toothpaste industry will be at home. Already growing at a rate of 15 per cent a year in value terms (and at 9 per cent in terms of volume), the industry is poised for even more impressive growth: the volume of production is expected to go up from 28,000 tonnes in 1989-90 to 65,500 tonnes in 1995, which works out to an annual compounded growth rate of about 12 per cent.

Much of that will be bought by the rural consumer. At present, rural India accounts for just 21 per cent of the industry's sales. But that figure could change dramatically. For the rural market is growing at an unbelievable 30-40 per cent a year. Expectedly, it is the principal target of most manufacturers. Says S. Rajagopalan, general manager, consumer products division, at Hindustan Ciba-Geigy: "The rural sector is booming—it is a very attractive market to be in."

Low prices are one strategy to draw the rural user of *neem* sticks or toothpowder into the toothpaste market. And no one has used it to better effect than Balsara with its Babool toothpaste, priced far lower than its nearest competitor. Says Aspi Balsara, managing director of Balsara Health Products: "The market for cheaper toothpaste is likely to grow faster than for premium brands."

Maybe. But other manufacturers can be expected to latch on to Balsara's strategy, besides thinking up new ones of their own. Some, for instance, are aiming at the premium end of the market. In any case, the situation is vastly different from that in 1978, when four multinationals—Colgate-Palmolive, Hindustan Lever, Ciba-Geigy and Geoffrey Manners—controlled 80 per cent of the market. Balsara, by grabbing a 17-per cent share of the market with its Promise and Babool brands with an aggressive advertising campaign, showed that the multinationals could be beaten at their own game. A fact other manufacturers have quickly woken up to.

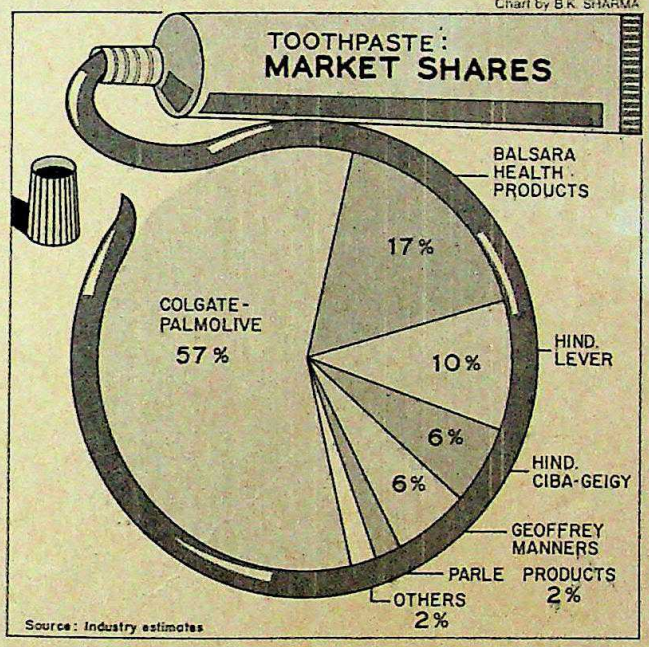
High gross margins—which could be in the range of 30 per cent—is one reason that prompts companies to leap into an already crowded market, though they could be wafer thin in the initial launch period, when a substantial part of sales turnover goes into advertising and marketing.

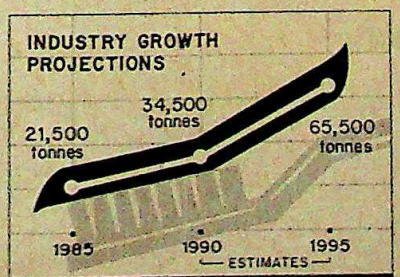
The fact that toothpaste manufacture has, since 1975, been reserved for the small-scale sector hasn't dissuaded the big daddies from launching new brands manufactured by small companies. Most believe there is place for everyone in a swiftly expanding market. Sanjay Guha, senior product manager with Hindustan Lever, feels that while individual companies may lose market share in terms of percentage points, they will still be able to maintain sales in volume terms. "The market is nowhere near saturation," he says. Others point out that per capita consumption of toothpaste in India is just a fraction of that in developed countries: 38 gm compared with 600 gm in the US. Even Zimbabwe, with a per capita consumption of 106 gm, rates higher. In other words, the potential for growth in India is tremendous.

If those calculations turn awry, many manufacturers are going to be squeezed out of the market—like, well, toothpaste from a tube.

—SHIV TANEJA

Chart by B.K. SHARMA





INDUSTRY PROFILE

Turnover 1989-90 (June-May):	Rs 266 crore by value 28,000 tonnes by weight
Number of companies in the industry:	19
Brands available:	32
Number of packs available:	109
Growth by value (yearly):	15%
Growth by volume:	9%

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

K.P.P. NAMBIAR

Suspect Role

Misuse of position alleged

ONCE secretary in the Union Department of Electronics and now industrial adviser to the Kerala Government, K.P.P. Nambiar is a household name in Kerala. Last fortnight, however, found Nambiar in a different sort of limelight. Documents revealed that Namtech Exports Pvt Ltd, a Bangalore-based company owned by Nambiar and his family, was trying to get itself appointed by the Kerala State Electronics Corporation (Keltron) as an export agent. What's odd is that Nambiar is also the chairman of Keltron.

Namtech Exports is part of the multi-crore rupee Namtech group of companies, the majority shareholding of which is held by Nambiar's son, Padman, and his wife, Usha. Set up last year, the company had paved the way to secure two export offers for Keltron from the Soviet Union, one for an analog control system worth Rs 4.48 crore and the other for a digital system worth Rs 8.95 crore. For these orders, Namtech was to be paid a commission of 7.5 per cent, which would have amounted to over Rs 1 crore.

Nambiar had made several trips to the Soviet Union on personal work, though the export deal was probably worked out through an associate, Raji Menon, a Moscow-based exporter. On January 2 last year, Menon wrote to Nambiar about the bright prospects of getting orders from Electronmontaz, a Russian firm involved in building thermal power projects. Then on January 5 this year, Namtech Exports wrote to Keltron saying that a positive response had come from the Soviet Union, and that it would like to arrive at a representative agreement with Keltron. A draft was drawn up. And Keltron's Senior Manager, U.M. Shafi, was sent to Moscow on February 24 for talks.

In April, a team from the Soviet Union flew to Trivandrum to inspect the Keltron system. They expressed satisfaction with the product and the stage was set for the signing of the agreement. Before it could be signed, however, the company's trade unions got wind of it and the links between Keltron and Namtech came out into the open.

Nambiar insists there was nothing unethical about the proposed appointment of Namtech as an agent for Keltron. He says he had told the Government before taking over as chairman of Keltron that he had business interests in Bangalore and would continue to pursue them. Moreover, he points out, when the decision to appoint Namtech was taken by Keltron's board of directors, he was not present. When he did arrive, towards the end of the meeting, he told the board that he would not take part in the discussions since he was the chairman of Namtech. And finally, he says, Keltron would never have got the two orders without his company's intervention.

The claim is hotly contested by various labour unions in Keltron. They point out that the company has secured export orders worth Rs 317 crore since 1980 without employing middlemen. Says G. Kartikeyan, general secretary of the KPCC(I) and leader of the company's Congress(I)-led union: "The deal which would have resulted in Keltron paying crores of rupees in commission was designed to benefit Nambiar's company. It should be scrapped and a CBI inquiry instituted."

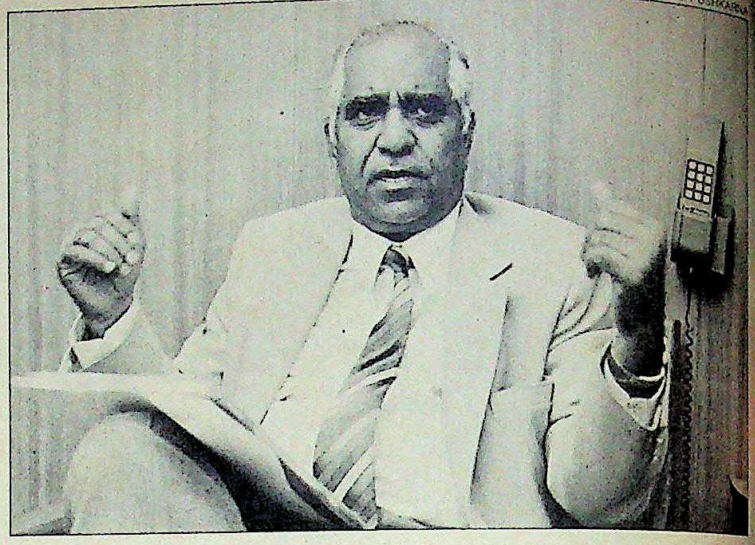
So far, the state Government, especially Industry Minister K.R. Gowriamma, has stood stoutly behind Nambiar. Gowriamma says she did not know that Nambiar was the chairman of Namtech until last fortnight. Nevertheless, she insists there was no corruption involved and that the appointment of an agent was necessary.

But Gowriamma is under pressure—and not just from opposition parties. P.K. Bhaskaran, general secretary of the CPI(M)-controlled Keltron Employees Association, has asked her to clarify whether Nambiar had used his position to make personal profits. Forced to backtrack, Gowriamma has announced that Keltron will have to seek the state Government's clearance on any step in its plan to export control systems through Namtech.

Since the representative agreement hasn't yet been signed, Nambiar's head is not on the block. But for a man regarded as holding the key to Kerala's industrial revival, that is small consolation.

—RAMESH MENON

PRAMOD PUSHKARNA



SHANKAR

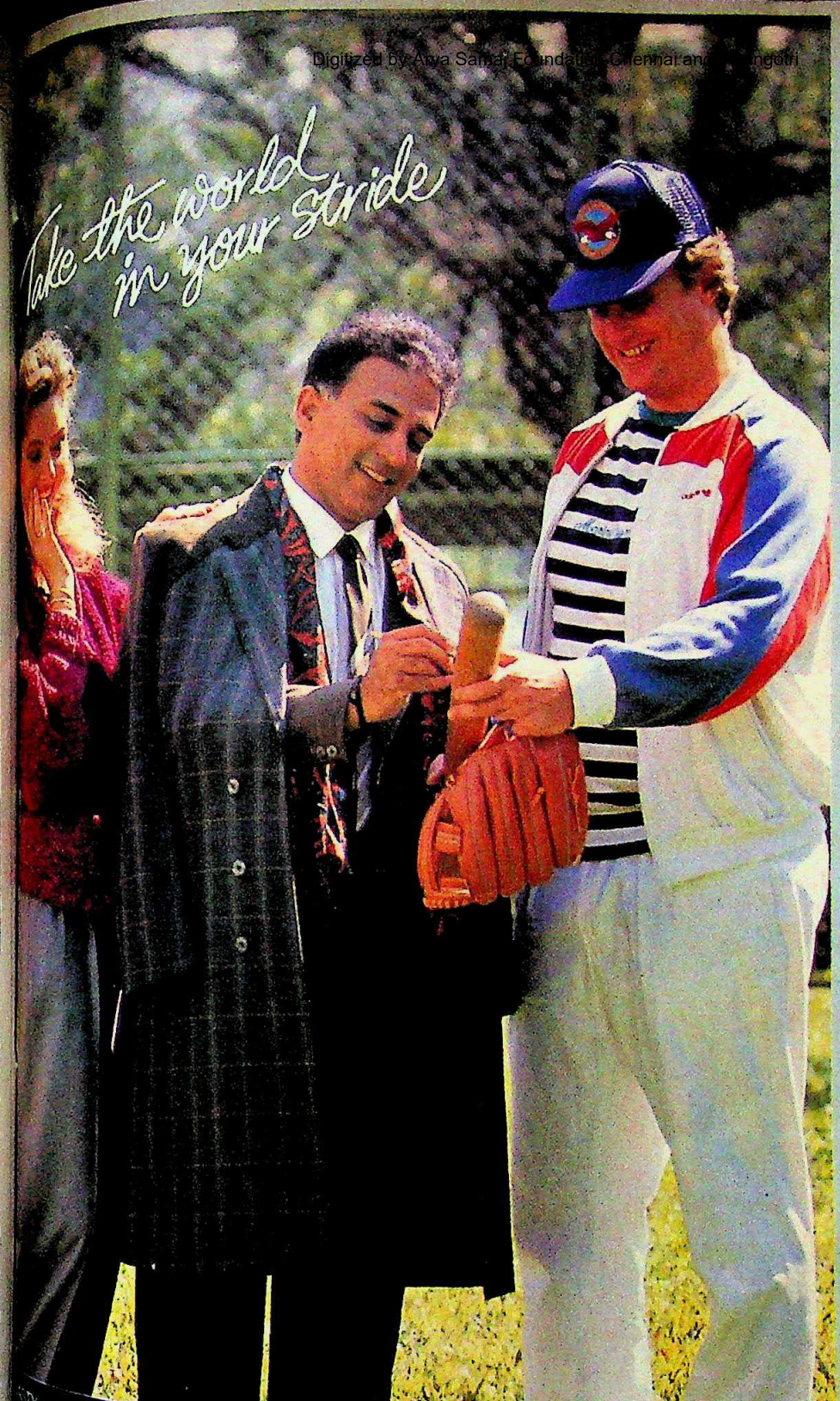
Nambiar (top); and Gowriamma: facing flak

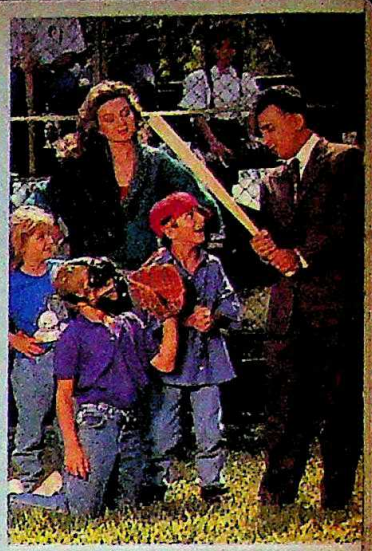
Nambiar is charged with trying to get his own firm appointed as Keltron's export agent.

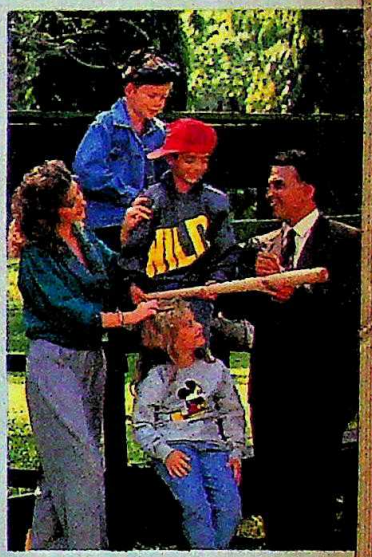
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

instituted."
ment, espe-
K.R. Gowri-
tly behind
s she did not
e chairman
ight. Never-
was no cor-
the appoint-
essary.
under pres-
opposition
eneral secre-
led Keltron
as asked her
ar had used
onal profits.
riamma has
will have to
's clearance
port control
n.
tive agree-
gned. Nam-
ck. But for a
the key to
that is small
MESH MENON







...TY • NUOVO LOOK • TREND SETTER • MATCH MAKER SATINS • HI FASHIONS SUITINGS

dinesh

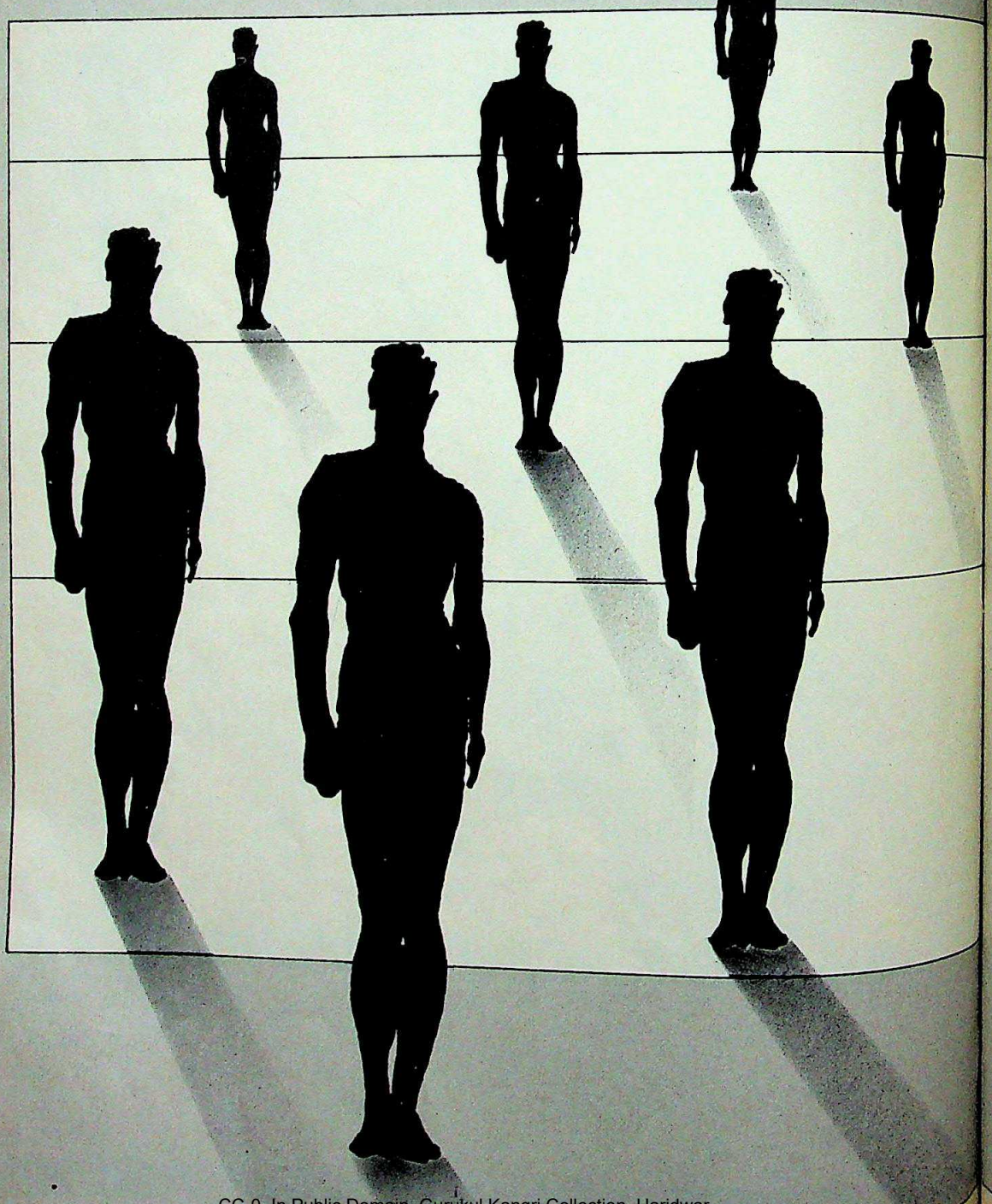
THE CHOICE OF LEADING FASHION HOUSES. INTERNATIONALLY

...HORISED DEALERS: BANGALORE: GUPTA'S TEXTILES & CO. • V. N. S. RAO BROS. • HYDERABAD: NEW MEENA BAZAR • SILK CENTRE
...ACAMUND: VARIETY HALL • VAIZAG: SILK CENTRE

(IT/5R)

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Where a human 'alloy' crea experience is proving inett



Sobhagya/203/90

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

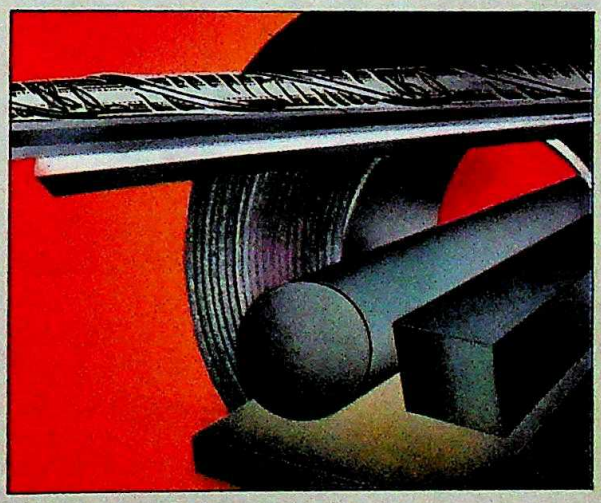
oy' creativity, expertise and ng mettle

It takes men of steel to steel a nation.

A country like India needs a backbone of steel if it is to achieve Super Power Status by the 21st century.

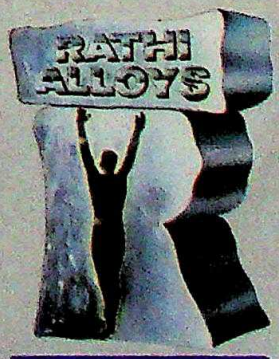
And its steelmakers have to be more than mere manufacturers. They have to be as hardworking, excellent and creative as the metal itself.

Like an organisation called **Rathi Alloys who pioneered a number of innovations for the betterment of the steel Industry.**



Like, for example, the development of a process which involved the reduction of the nickel content in stainless steel, thereby saving the country several crores of Rupees. A process in use in developed countries like the United States.

People whose mettle is being tempered in the fires of the furnaces as well. The human alloy called **Rathi Alloys.**

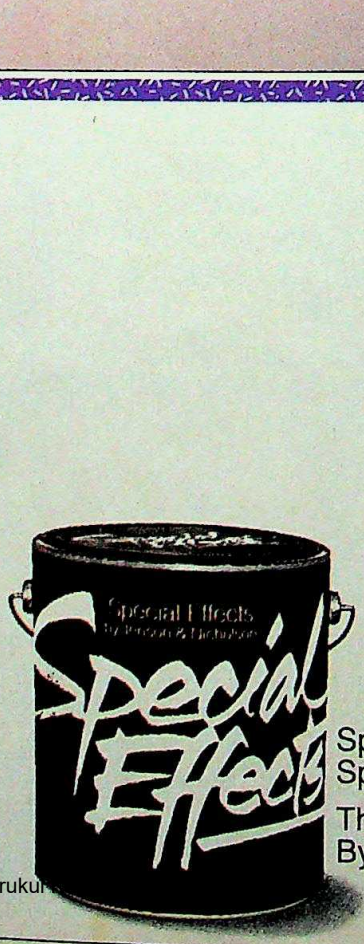


RATHI ALLOYS & STEEL LTD

Striving To Excel

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



Special Effects
Special Wall Finish

The Masterpiece
By Jenson & Nicholson

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

EXCISE DUTY

Refund Row

Disputed order withdrawn

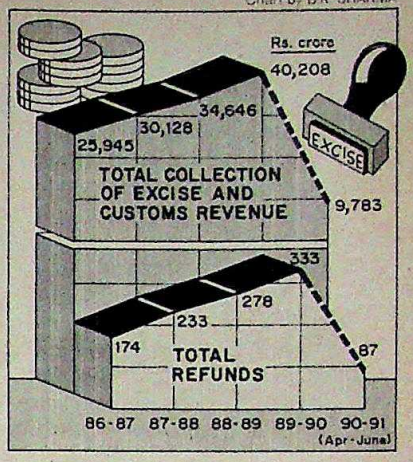
FOR the National Front Government which came to power on promises to root out corruption, it was the first taste of its own medicine. Through most of last month, a political storm raged over a four-paragraph circular issued by the Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) in March pertaining to refunds of excise duty. Opposition leader Rajiv Gandhi claimed that it was a Rs 10,000-crore scandal. A confused Finance Ministry first scrambled for cover as politicians—including many from the ruling coalition—trained their guns at the Government. Then it got its act together. The amounts, it transpired, were piffling. And the so-called scandal turned out to be little more than the proverbial storm in a tea-cup.

What gave the controversy a cutting edge were allegations by Janata Dal MPs that the Government was favouring wealthy manufacturers at the expense of poor consumers. It was alleged that the Finance Ministry was refunding excess excise duties collected from producers, though they had already raised these sums from consumers. After the Congress(I) had started a raucous slanging session in Parliament, Rajiv Gandhi went on to tell his constituents at Amethi: "The excise scandal is like an atom bomb compared to the Bofors gun." Even as Prime Minister V.P. Singh was sought to be dragged into the controversy, the central issues got fogged in the ensuing war of words.

These issues, like the country's tax laws, are complex. The Central Government levies excise duty on 182 major product groups—such taxes account for as much as 22 per cent of the Government's total revenues—including tea, vegetable oils, cigarettes, petroleum products, medicines, cosmetics, tyres, synthetic fibres, match-boxes and paper. The rate of excise duty to be levied is assessed by field staff at various points of production.

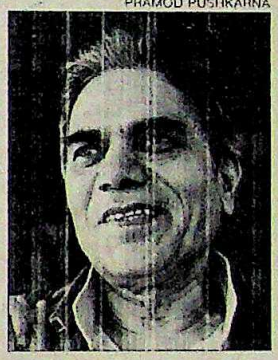
Manufacturers often ask for reviews, pleading overassessment. But while the review is on, production continues and sales are made at higher prices after including the duty element, the additional burden being borne by consumers. If the producer succeeds in convincing the Excise Department or obtains court orders to the effect that his duty burden was overassessed, he claims a refund. The moot question is whether the Government is justified in refunding the excess duty to the producer when he has already passed on the higher tax burden to consumers.

Chart by B.K. SHARMA



PRASHANT PANJIAR

PRAMOD PUSHKARNA



Dandavate (left); and Limaye: more sound than fury

In 1981, a report of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) suggested that since the extra excise duty was actually paid by the consumer, it is he, not the producer, who should get the refund. The problem is that it is next to impossible to identify the consumers who have paid this additional excise duty. The PAC suggested that the refund money should be kept in a special kitty which should be used for consumer welfare.

Over the last decade, two judgements of the Bombay and Gujarat high courts and one of the Supreme Court have supported the view that refund of excess excise duty is tantamount to unjust enrichment of producers. The March 28 circular of the CBEC flew in the teeth of these judgements and reignited the controversy since it ordered officials not to withhold any 'lawful' claims of refunds. In April, May and June—the first three months of the current financial year for which figures are available—the Revenue Department refunded Rs 88.4 crore *(see chart)*.

The Government initially stood by this departmental action on the ground that the Central Excise, Gold (Control) Appellate Tribunal (CEGAT),

COUNTDOWN TO A CONTROVERSY

11 January: Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) meets to decide refunds issue.

21-23 March: Telex sent to field staff instructing them not to withhold refunds followed by a formal circular.

3 August: Madhu Limaye writes to Law Minister Dinesh Goswami inquiring whether his ministry cleared the CBEC circular. Seven Janata Dal MPs write to V.P. Singh.

9-20 August: Chandra Shekhar writes two letters to Singh.

23 August: Limaye writes to Goswami again.

24 August: 21 MPs raise the issue during JD Parliamentary Board meeting. Circular is nullified by Finance Minister Madhu Dandavate.

25 August: Rajkot and Bombay excise collectors start sending show-cause notices asking companies to return refunds.

4 September: Limaye writes to Revenue Department asking why the circular was annulled if it was legal.

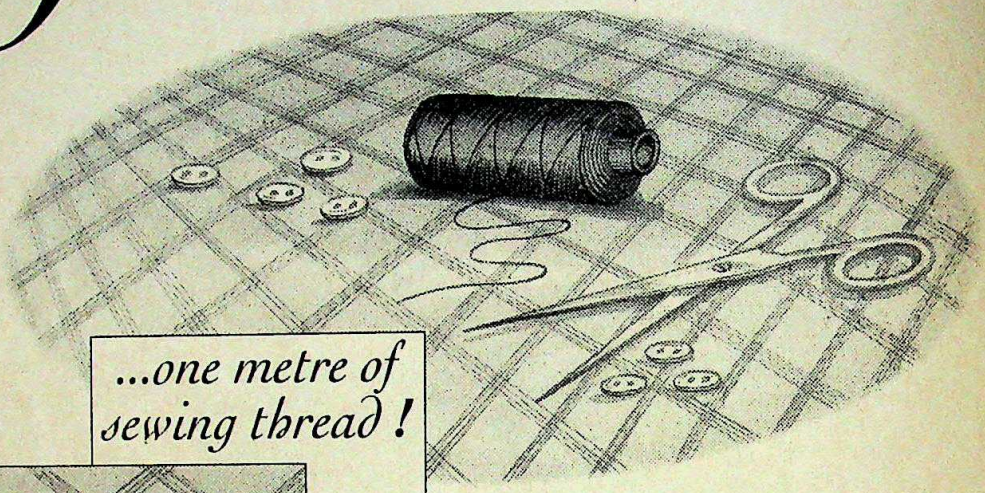
6 September: Dandavate tells Parliament that the entire policy on refunds is being reviewed.

13 September: Revenue Department asks excise collectors to stop sending show-cause notices.

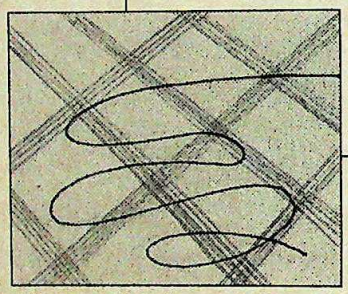
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

One paisa is worth . . .



...one metre of sewing thread !



Not many people realise the value of money. Today, people think one paisa can't get them anything. But, Dugar Investments Limited doesn't think so.

The Dugars have been in the finance business for over seven decades. From the time of indigenous banking, through the days of non-nationalised banks, till today when they run a professional finance company, headed by the Chairman **Dr. C. Anna Rao**, and Managing Director **Shri. N. Tarachand Dugar**.

The Capital and Reserves of Dugar Investments Limited is over **Rs. 2 crores** and the total funds employed is over **Rs. 15 crores**. The company declared a dividend of **25%** for four consecutive years till 1988-89, when a dividend of **32%** was declared. (15 Months)

Here your money is handled by professionals. Invested only in safe businesses like road transport and industrial machinery. Because, at Dugar Investments Limited, we know the value of every paisa.

We know the value of every paisa

DEPOSIT DRIVE MONTH

- HIRE PURCHASE
- LEASING
- PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT
- PUBLIC DEPOSITS

DUGAR
INVESTMENTS LIMITED

Earning your trust for over seven decades

REGD. OFFICE : 805 MOUNT ROAD (OPP. LIC BLDG.), MADRAS-600 002. PH:831888, 833444, 833222
BRANCHES: ANNANAGAR, T.NAGAR (MADRAS)

BANGALORE	: Ph:565444.	DELHI	: Ph:269904, 266681	SALEM	: Ph: 68769
CALICUT	: Ph: 63344	GUDUR	: Ph: 330	SECUNDERABAD	: Ph: 846006
COCHIN	: Ph: 369515	NELLORE	: Ph: 7576	TIRUNELVELI	: Ph: 24599
COIMBATORE	: Ph: 37867	PONDICHERRY	: Ph: 26808	VIJAYAWADA	: Ph: 475668
				VISHAKHAPATNAM	: Ph: 696 26

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

JK PAPER CARRIES ON THE MAGIC OF COMMUNICATION

Communication

The magic which has made man the undisputed master of the Universe. With power over beast and nature.

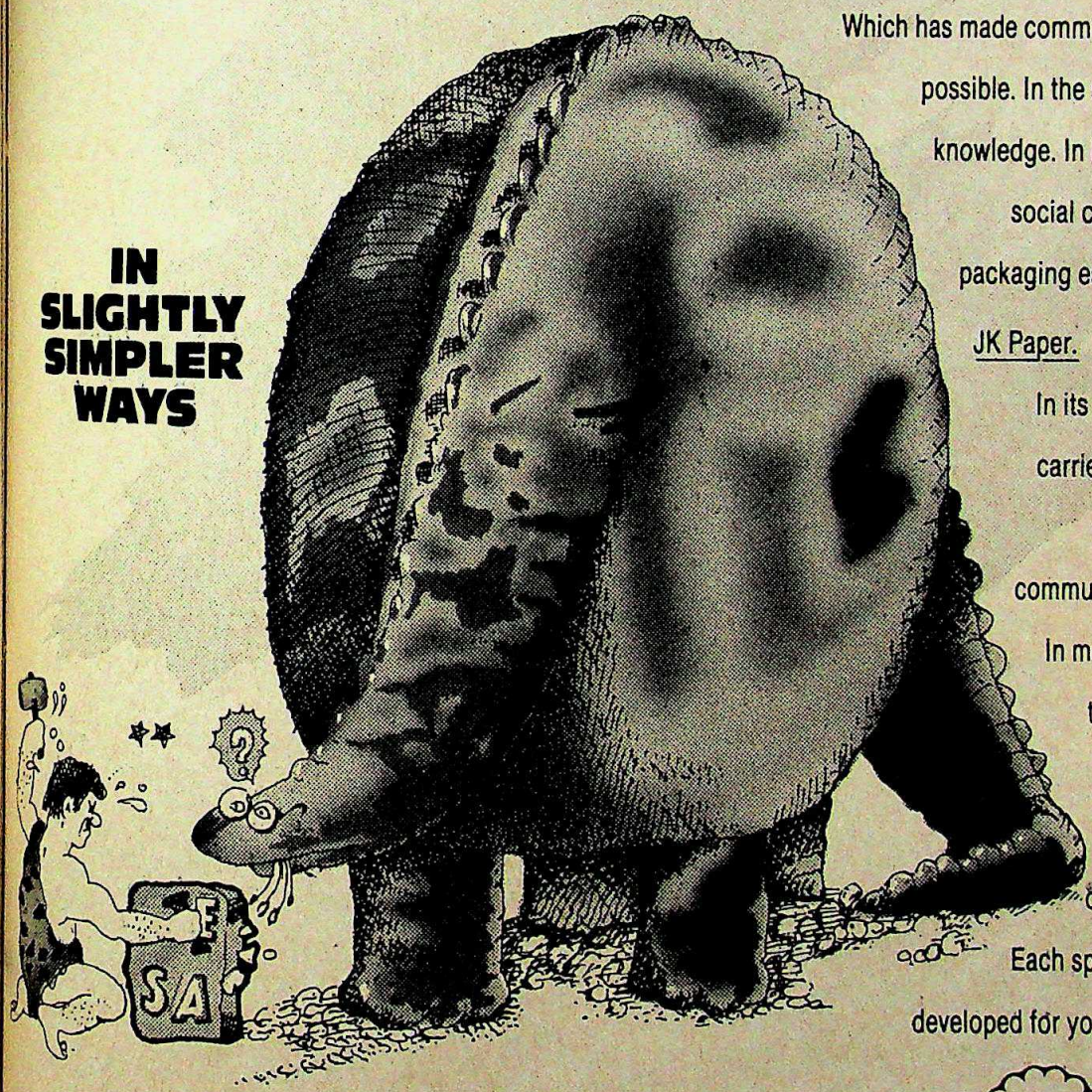
And Paper.

Which has made communication possible. In the spread of knowledge. In business, social contact or packaging essentials.

JK Paper.

In its own way carries on this magic of communication. In more ways than one. Through its range of papers. Each specifically developed for your needs.

IN SLIGHTLY SIMPLER WAYS



JAYKAY

JK PAPER
A DIVISION OF
STRAW PRODUCTS LTD.

JK BOND • JK AIRMAIL • JK POSTER • JK SUPER COPIER • JK COTE PAPER & BOARDS • JK CREAMWOVE • JK MAPLITHO

FS Advertising/JKP/400

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

one verdict of the Bombay High Court in 1989 and another by the Supreme Court in 1988 had all held that government officials had no authority to deny refunds to producers. But the Bombay High Court judgement did not overlook the question of unjust enrichment and directed that only a writ court was empowered to decide matters relating to excise duty refunds.

Socialist theoretician Madhu Limaye, who was in the forefront of the campaign against the CBEC circular, holds that the Government should let producers fight their tax claims through courts. He asks how the same Government which drags its own employees to courts on disputes over small amounts can now allow Rs 88 crore to slip out of its hands without question. "It is sheer negligence and carelessness," he says.

Though there is no unanimity about the way these apparently conflicting court judgements should be interpreted, the Government by its actions seemed to have admitted that it had made a mistake. Finance Minister Madhu Dandavate nullified the CBEC circular and referred the matter to Attorney General Soli Sorabjee for legal advice, something that should have been done before the controversial circular was issued. The ministry also stopped the issue of show-cause notices to producers who had already received the refunds.

Even if the Finance Ministry can be blamed for its oversight and for its hamhanded approach, the Opposition claim that certain businessmen had been favoured to the extent of Rs 10,000 crore does not stick. Amidst all the hue and cry, one fact has been conveniently ignored. The Rs 88.4 crore refunded has gone to a few hundred manufacturers and no large refund has been made to any single big business house. For instance, the Bombay zone refunded Rs 2.83 crore to 114 manufacturers, the largest amount being Rs 21.7 lakh to the relatively-unknown Dowell Electro Works, that too after a court order.

After obtaining details of the entire refund of Rs 88.4 crore, the Revenue Department established that only eight business houses were given more than Rs 1 crore. Of these, seven cases had been decided by the courts or the CEGAT. Thus the officials had not refunded any big sum on their own—the main charge of the Opposition.

There's a lesson in all this: both the Government and its critics need to do their homework a bit better.

—PANKAJ PACHAURI

BUSINESSPEAK

G.V. RAMAKRISHNA

Protect Investor Interests

G.V. Ramakrishna has no illusions about the tasks ahead of him. As chairman of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), the watchdog of the capital markets set up two years ago, he must get the SEBI draft legislation pushed through Parliament. Simultaneously, he must maintain the momentum of work despite having no legal status.

Barely six weeks into his job, Ramakrishna, in a conversation with Senior Correspondent SHIV TANEJA in Bombay, argued that while protection of investors' interest is important, it is only a small part of what SEBI ought to be doing in the developing capital markets.

A great deal has to be done to protect investors' interests, not merely by looking at individual complaints, but in a larger way, by setting up systems and procedures to automatically take care of problems.

In the primary market, for instance. Merchant banks which act as managers to public issues are active till the closure—till the investor gets into the net, so to say. I am asking them to see that the post-issue work—issue of allotment letters and refund of money—is completed on time.

We also want merchant bankers to ensure that the prospectus provides accurate and adequate information. Today the prospectus is available to the public only on request. Investors just get to see brochures and advertisements, and the companies protect themselves by the small print—this does not purport to be the prospectus.

There must also be more transparency in the working of the stock exchanges. I would like to see that the stockbrokers do not have a majority in the governing bodies of the exchanges. Investor groups too should have a presence. Today a representative of SEBI is on the board, but what can one person do against 10 others? I would like SEBI to be given the authority to appoint the executive director of the exchange and remove him if need be.

When we talk of regulation, people often say that ours is a growing market and ought not to be curbed. My response is that the freest markets of the world have far more regulations than in India. SEBI has no powers now. But the powers of the Securities and Exchange Commission of the US are far more than SEBI is likely to have even in future.

Take mutual funds. They are a very important instrument on the capital markets, but we treat them like any other private company and bring them under the ambit of the Controller of Capital Issues (CCI) under the Ministry of Finance. In every other developed market, it is the Securities and Exchange Commission or equivalent that is given the power to oversee mutual funds, and that would be appropriate for India too.

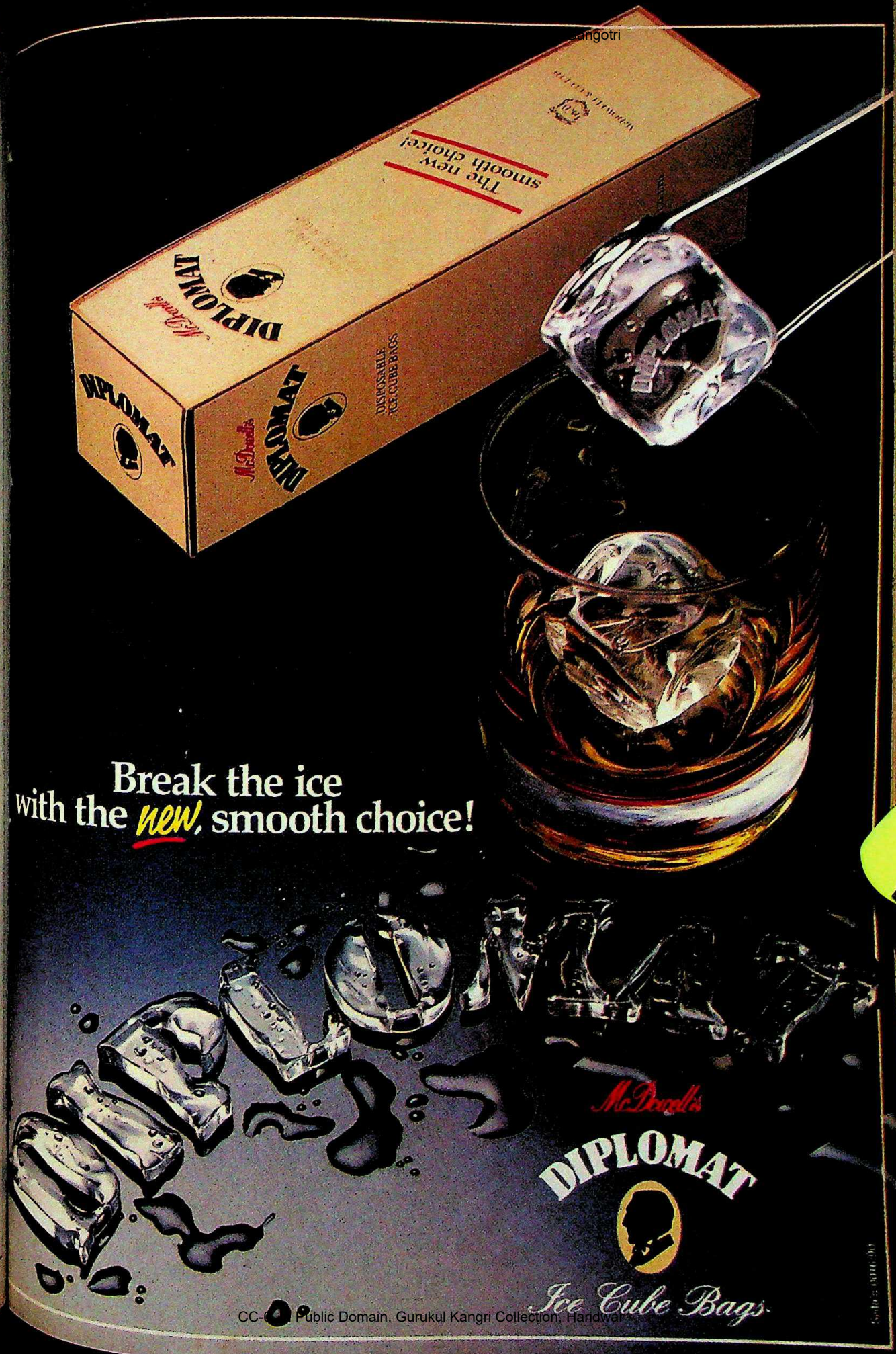
It is also important that the same agency that oversees mutual funds should oversee the stock exchanges and the primary markets. You should not fragment authority so that the players in the market have to go to four different agencies for approvals, or where they can take advantage of the lack of co-ordination between the four agencies.

Now on the question of capital issues. Today, the CCI is the starting point for the primary market. But I think it would be appropriate for SEBI to be given this role. Whether SEBI should get this from the word go, or after it grows for a year or so are only matters of detail.

All this is yet a while away, nevertheless we have been quite busy: we are bringing out lists of companies who have many complaints (delay in allotment of shares, refund of monies) against them, and then giving these lists wide publicity. One list is already out. We are also working on a system to ensure that the investor does not have to wait for several months for refunds, as is common. It's a small beginning, but an encouraging one.

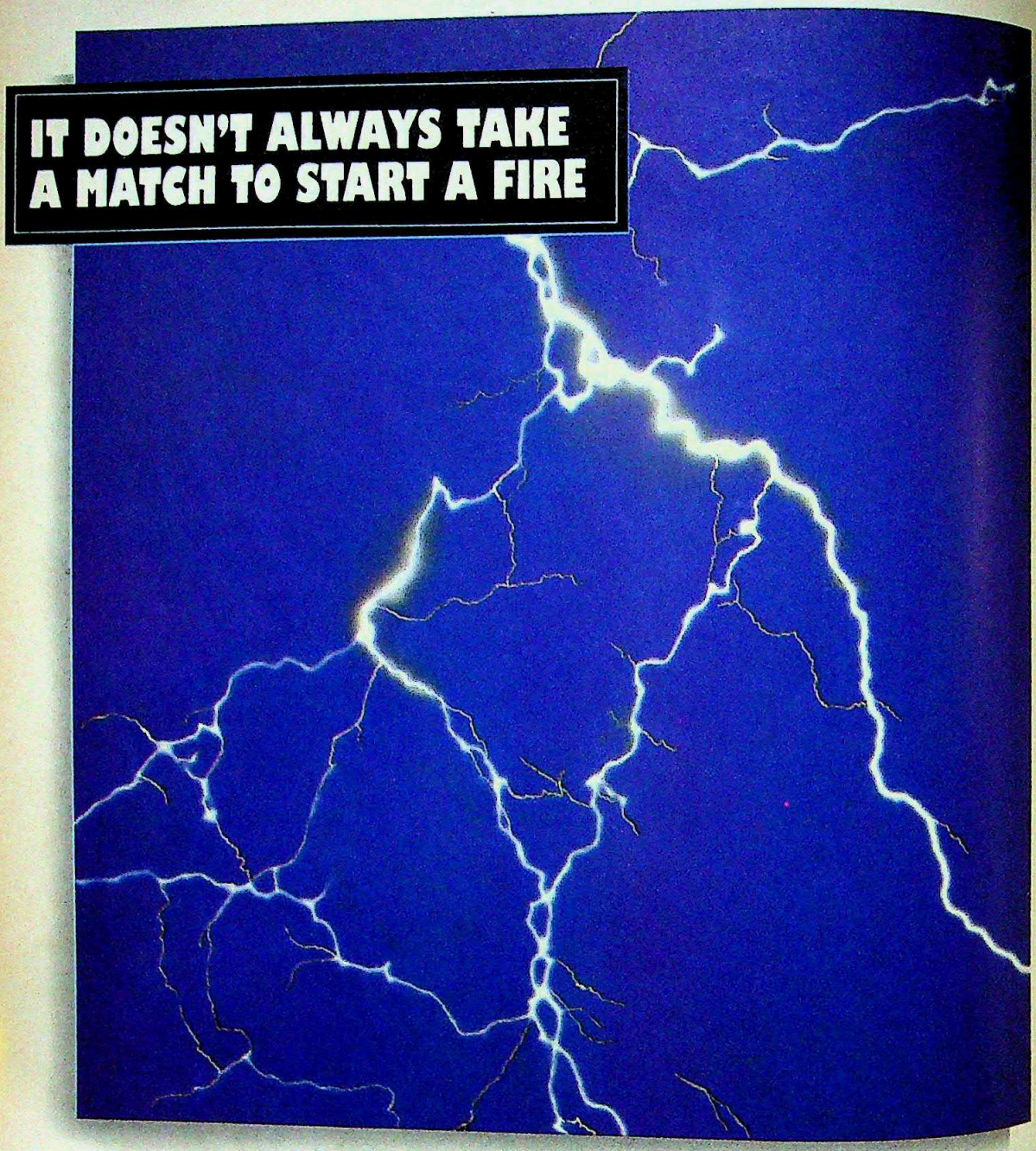
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Gangotri



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

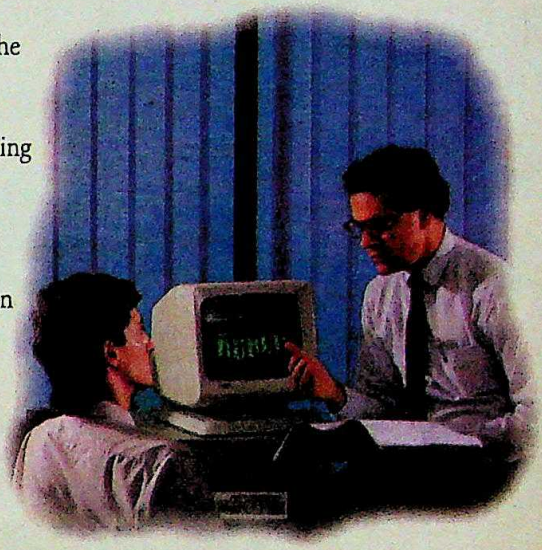
When we went into computers, we made a promise. We said, instead of building a computer company, like everyone else, let's build people.

Passion. Vision. A burning desire to dare. That's driving ordinary people to do extraordinary things at PCL.

Let's invest in enthusiasm. Intuition. Courage. Risk-taking. An open environment that fosters 'unlearning from the past' to innovate the future. To change perspectives. To redefine. To be distinctive.

Our experiment has not been without disappointments, frustrations, failures. But persistence, passion, the belief that something distinctive could be forged nonetheless, brings us to celebrate the successful tries.

Today, the honour belongs to our people. Who think big, but start small. Like looking into the minutest details to make our computers better. The service more caring, more human. Or examining leading edge technologies so that you could get more returns.



All this has helped us to make fair progress, even though we are late starters.

From PCs we've grown to minicomputers, 386 & 486 based machines, workstations, LANS. To name a few. We've entered into Software development; its marketing and exports.

International giants found us, even before we went looking for them. Tie-ups span global leaders such as SUN, Novell, Ingres, Lotus and WordPerfect. Just 14 months ago we didn't have any one of these names.

And in just a span of three years, we've grown from 200 to 1200 of some of the finest people. People who will make PCL a Rs.120 crore computer company this year. Making it the first computer company in the country to cross the Rs.100 crore mark. In just four years.

PCL. India's fastest growing computer company. Yes we are, but is that our pride of place? To take the ordinary and do the extraordinary, that's our commitment.

That's the striking difference. And that we believe is matchless!

PCL

GOOD PEOPLE. GOOD COMPUTERS.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

everest/d90/PCL/288

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

The Thapar Group

JCT FABRICS

Creations for a Masterpiece.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

THE MARKETS

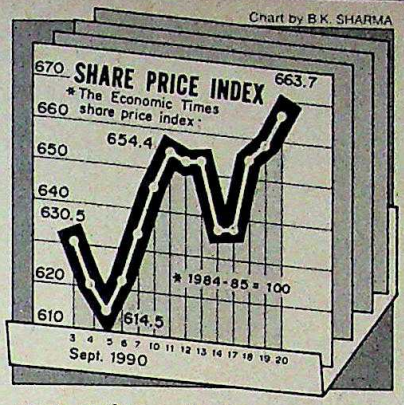
Marching On

No let-up in the boom

THE Bombay Stock Exchange's (BSE) 30-share sensitive index declined marginally in the course of last fortnight in symbolic deference to the need to mute the runaway rise in share prices. Having done that, it then continued its upward rise, to close the week ended September 21 at an all-time high of 1,389.04. The *Economic Times* index of share price also showed a marked rise of 17.5, to close at 786.1.

Several shares recorded sizeable gains in the wake of relaxation of trading restrictions. Tata Steel, for instance, flared up by Rs 20 to Rs 185 and ACC which was trading in the Rs 2000-band closed at Rs 2,100. Grasim shot up to a new high of Rs 267.50—a gain of 35 per cent in less than a week. The Reliance share closed at Rs 189.50 on speculative buying, having gone up to as much as Rs 192 in late trading. This was despite an adjourned AGM on account of unruly shareholders agitated at the lack of space at the meeting's venue.

Chart by B.K. SHARMA



A combination of circumstances had contributed to the temporary cooling of passions. Bull operators rushed to book gains in the wake of high carry-over charges imposed by stock exchange authorities. Then a leading short-selling broker in Bombay defaulted in his payments. The exceptionally high *badla* (contango) rates of about 8 per cent a month at Calcutta and Ahmedabad also reflected the market's apprehensions.

But there were bright spots. The star performer of an otherwise-depressed fortnight was 'Canstar', launched by Canbank Mutual Fund. Initially, the fund was expecting to collect around Rs 250 crore. Subsequently, that figure was scaled up to around Rs 700 crore. The final total was revealed after the fund closed on September 15: in excess of Rs 1,000 crore.

On a more modest scale, Bank of India's 'BOInanza' (the fund promoted by BOI Mutual Fund) was able to collect some Rs 400 crore. And the biggest player in the markets, the Unit Trust of India, managed to mobilise around Rs 350 crore with its special annual offer made in July. With up to 30 per cent of this money eventually finding its way into equity investments, the stock-markets in the country seemed to be getting ready for yet another bullish phase.

Though the lodestar of the current stock-market boom, ACC, closed the fortnight at over Rs 2,100, shares of cement companies remained by and large listless. Reason: the industry is awaiting the final outcome of the directive issued by the Monopolies and Restrictive Prices Commission to freeze cement prices.

In the long term, the bullish trend seems poised to continue: it is hardly outrageous to predict that the BSE sensitive index will cross the magic 1,500 mark before the year is through.

ACTIVE STOCKS

	1990 HIGH	1990 LOW	CLOSE 20.9.90	Change in Fortnight
Ashok Leyland	126.50	69.50	114.50	0.50 +
Associated Cement	2100.00	325.00	2000.00	375.00 +
Asian Paints	305.00	207.50	267.50	5.00 –
Atlas Copco	68.00	32.50	51.00	7.00 –
Bajaj Auto	750.00	355.00	720.00	30.00 +
Baroda Rayon	1925.00	617.50	1625.00	75.00 –
Birla India	98.00	62.50	90.00	5.00 –
Bollarpur	325.00	120.00	305.00	32.00 +
Birla Jute	188.00	50.50	178.00	24.00 +
Blow Plast	125.00	34.50	125.00	37.50 +
Bombay Dyeing	432.50	173.00	410.00	17.50 +
Britannia Ind.	167.00	97.00	158.00	2.00 –
Brooke Bond	166.00	91.00	166.00	17.00 +
Cadbury India	192.50	133.75	176.25	3.75 +
Century Textiles	4550.00	2420.00	4425.00	250.00 +
Colgate Palmolive	345.00	176.25	337.50	20.00 +
Cyanamid	145.00	87.50	135.00	15.00 +
DCM	126.00	45.50	108.00	5.50 –
Dunlop	93.00	51.75	84.00	0.50 –
E.I. Hotels	65.25	50.00	60.00	5.00 +
Escorts	153.50	77.75	153.00	19.50 +
Finolex Cables	410.00	200.00	300.00	25.00 –
Garware Nylon	70.00	48.00	56.00	4.00 – *
G.E. Shipping	54.75	38.00	41.25	2.25 –
G.S.F.C.	275.00	155.00	260.00	2.50 + *
Grasim Ind.	272.50	106.00	262.50	63.75 +
Hind. Aluminium	417.50	205.00	342.50	52.50 +
Hind. Ciba	1900.00	960.00	1625.00	125.00 –
Hindustan Lever	167.50	101.00	167.50	17.50 + *
Hindustan Motors	54.50	19.80	47.50	6.00 –
Hoechst	3400.00	1295.00	3175.00	25.00 +
ICI India Ltd.	70.00	35.25	70.00	9.50 +
Indian Organic	91.25	46.50	81.25	1.25 +
Indian Rayon	170.00	84.00	162.50	7.50 +
Indrol	315.00	161.25	272.50	2.50 –
Ingersoll-Rand	305.00	190.00	300.00	10.00 +
ITC	154.00	48.75	154.00	19.00 +
J.K. Synthetics	90.00	50.00	68.00	9.00 –
Kinetic Engineering	235.00	130.00	235.00	17.50 +
Kirloskar Cummins	125.00	65.00	111.25	nil
KSB Pumps	247.50	175.00	245.00	15.00 +
Larsen & Toubro	180.00	57.00	165.00	13.75 +
Lipton	112.00	73.00	92.50	2.50 –
LML Ltd.	60.00	15.00	55.00	2.00 +
Madura Coats	197.00	100.50	197.00	17.00 +
M&M	107.50	67.50	95.00	2.50 –
Milk Food	280.00	115.00	185.00	15.00 +
Motor Industries	1400.00	780.00	1175.00	25.00 –
Mukand Ltd.	212.50	127.00	205.00	38.75 +
National Organic	1900.00	1070.00	1700.00	50.00 –
Nestle India	162.50	101.75	158.75	28.75 +
Nirlon	42.00	13.00	40.00	9.00 +
Orkay Silk Mills	43.00	14.50	34.50	3.00 –
Peico Electronics	75.00	24.00	69.50	8.50 +
Pfizer	113.75	72.50	75.00	7.50 –
Premier Auto	83.00	53.50	65.00	nil
Raymond	120.00	70.00	108.75	0.25 –
Reckitt & Colman	265.00	178.00	252.00	3.00 +
Reliance Industries	199.00	50.00	182.00	22.00 +
Siemens India	142.50	96.00	140.00	17.50 +
Shaw Wallace	122.00	65.00	106.00	5.00 –
Shriram Fibres	74.00	43.00	60.00	10.00 –
SKF Bearings	2500.00	1240.00	2350.00	25.00 + *
SPIC	81.00	50.75	65.00	7.50 –
Tata Steel	185.00	103.25	165.00	2.00 –
Telco	260.00	110.00	227.50	7.50 –
Vam Organic	205.00	115.00	182.50	7.50 – *
Videocon Int.	515.00	105.00	480.00	162.50 +
Voltas	145.00	63.00	137.50	nil
Wimco	52.50	15.75	37.00	3.00 –

* Ex dividend

WORLD VALUE OF RUPEE

COUNTRY	CURRENCY	UNIT	TT Selling Rates Rs	TT Buying Rates Rs
Australia	Dollar	1	15.0901	14.9292
Austria	Shilling	100	163.1325	162.3976
Bahrain	Dinar	1	48.5290	47.4372
Bangladesh	Taka	100	52.7489	51.5033
Canada	Dollar	1	15.7835	15.6273
Denmark	Kroner	1	3.0320	3.0014
Egypt	Pound	1	6.8415	6.7262
France	Franc	1	3.5088	3.4188
Hong Kong	Dollar	1	2.3449	2.3224
Indonesia	Rupiah	100	0.9837	0.9691
Iran	Rial	100	25.5368	25.2559
Italy	Lira	100	1.5475	1.5302
Japan	Yen	100	13.4771	13.1406
Kenya	Shilling	1	0.8017	0.7924
Kuwait	Dinar	1	62.1105	60.0871
Malaysia	Dollar	1	6.7381	6.6726
Mauritius	Rupee	1	1.2682	1.2518
Nepal	Rupee	1	0.6352	0.6270
Netherlands	Guilder	1	10.2353	10.1327
Pakistan	Rupee	1	0.8425	0.8326
Singapore	Dollar	1	10.3078	10.2044
Spain	Peseta	1	0.1848	0.1825
Sri Lanka	Rupee	1	0.4561	0.4507
Sweden	Kroner	1	3.1485	3.1166
Switzerland	Franc	1	13.8464	13.7081
Tanzania	Shilling	1	0.0984	0.0949
Thailand	Baht	100	72.5034	70.6907
UK	Pound	1	33.9847	33.7382
USA	Dollar	1	18.1984	18.0261
UAE	Dirham	1	4.9573	4.9064
USSR	Rouble	1	29.3285	29.0276
W. Germany	Deutschmark	1	11.7371	11.4416

These rates were supplied by The Bank of Tokyo Limited, New Delhi and quoted between the banks on 22.9.90.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

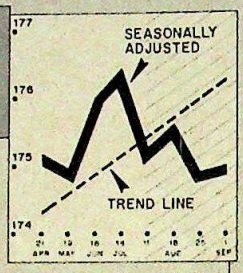
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Good news on the industrial front—the industrial sector exhibited marked signs of revival. In particular, manufacturing output picked up significantly and there was an expansion in commercial bank credit. On the other hand, money supply stagnated. Wholesale prices were stable with a low current trend rate of growth. There is, however, no cause for complacency, since the level of wholesale prices is high and consumer prices continue to climb.

All data are seasonally adjusted. Current trends are computed on the basis of six months' (weekly data) or one-and-a-half years' (monthly data) figures.

Wholesale Price Index
1981-82 = 100

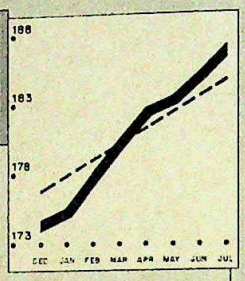
Current Trend
3.1% p.a.



Wholesale prices once again exhibited stability, a fact that is reflected in the low current trend.

Consumer Price Index
1982 = 100

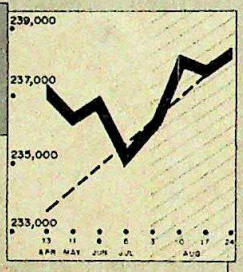
Current Trend
7.4% p.a.



The index of consumer prices is rising slowly but steadily. So inflation still remains very much a problem.

Money Supply
Rs Crore

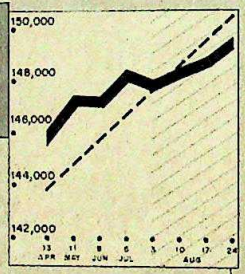
Current Trend
5.4% p.a.



The quantum of money in the economy fluctuated a little, though on the whole it remained quite stable.

Commercial Bank Credit
Rs Crore

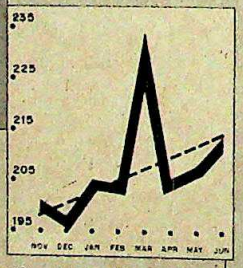
Current Trend
12.4% p.a.



The quantum of commercial bank credit rose. To sustain economic growth, we need to maintain this rising trend.

Industrial Production Index
1980-81 = 100

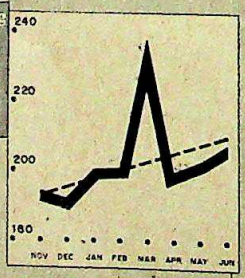
Current Trend
12.9% p.a.



As reflected in the rise in the industrial production index, industry is finally showing signs of recovery.

Manufacturing Index
1980-81 = 100

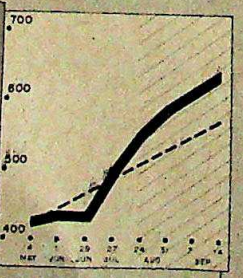
Current Trend
15.1% p.a.



The manufacturing sector bounced back with a current trend greater than the overall industrial trend rate of growth.

Share Price Index
1984-85 = 100

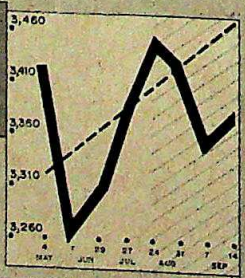
Current Trend
82.5% p.a.



Share prices continue to zoom. With industry recovering, it is difficult to distinguish the effects of speculation and economic signals.

Closing Gold Prices
Rs per 10 gm

Current Trend
12.3% p.a.



Gold prices fell slightly before recovering. With the festival season approaching, demand is bound to outstrip supply.

WHOLESALE PRICES

Growth of items in the 2nd fortnight of August 1990

	% Growth
Hides Raw	11.93
Copra	6.42
Coconut Oil	5.62
Coffee	4.63
Zinc	4.38
Onions	4.13
Cashew-Nut	3.44
Jute Textiles	3.41
Groundnut Seeds	2.61
Eggs	2.46
Coir Yarn	2.37
Silk Raw	2.09
Tobacco Raw	1.98
Turmeric	1.66
Milk	1.55
Butter	1.47
Ghee	1.25
Maize	1.09
Maida	0.94
Groundnut Oil	0.87
Biscuits	0.74
Buses	0.64
Dairy Products	0.64
Trucks	0.59
Chillies	0.53
Gur	0.44
Cotton Cloth	0.39
Internal Combustion Engines	0.28
Copper & Alloys	0.23
Rice	0.22
Bajra	0.20
Cement	0.17
Nylon/Terene and Mixed Cloth	0.17
Cables & Wires	0.16
Rape & Mustard Seeds	0.15
Transformers	0.13
Cotton Yarn	0.11
Sugar	0.07
Soda Ash	0.00
Semis Billets	0.00
Nitrogenous Fertilisers	0.00
Plates & Sheets	0.00
Caustic Soda	0.00
Camel Back	0.00
Bars & Rods	0.00
Tubes	0.00
Bulk Drugs	0.00

Of the 134 series considered, 103 of them with a total weight of 63.135 had a non-negative rate of growth and 31 of them with a total weight of 21.717 had a negative rate of growth.

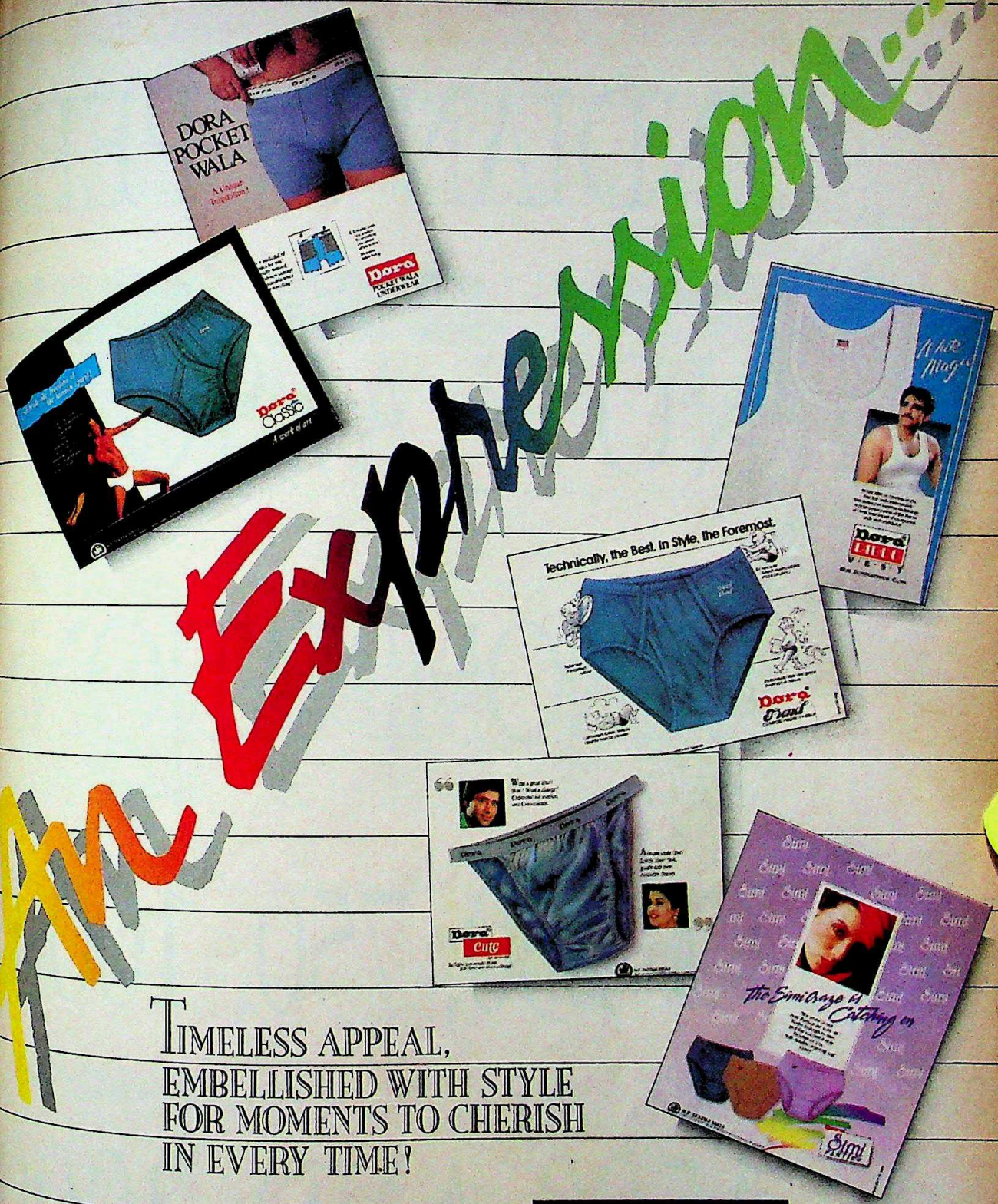
SELECTED INDICATORS

	1990	1989
Coal Thousand Tonnes, July	13,450	13,720
Saleable Steel Thousand Tonnes, July	745.9	709.7
Cement Thousand Tonnes, July	3805	3389
Fertiliser Thousand Tonnes, July	844.3	708.4
Call Money Rate Per Cent, July	967.25	1003.29

Compiled by THE POLICY GROUP

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



H.P. TEXTILE MILLS
CALCUTTA • NEW DELHI • AHMEDABAD • KANPUR • BOMBAY

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Ankur/HPT/99

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

INDIAN RUPEES NOW ALSO IN DENOMINATIONS OF 250, 750, 1000, 1500 AND 2000

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

It's quite obvious we're referring to credit cards. However, we're not addressing only big spenders. At MasterCard, we're also talking to people who are afraid they'll overspend. Because we know they won't. Here's why. At the end of every month,

when you get your bills, you know exactly where your money went. And even if you do overspend, you'll plan and budget accordingly for the next month. So, in a way, a credit card does keep a tight rein on your expenditure. And it doesn't cost

much to get one. It's also the most widely accepted credit card. Welcomed by over 15,000 merchant establishments in India. So if you are a small spender but think big, meet any of the banks whose cards are shown here. They will handle the rest.

MasterCard

BANK IN YOUR POCKET

ADVERTISING SPONSORED BY MASTERCARD MEMBER BANKS IN INDIA: ANDHRA BANK, BANK OF AMERICA, BANK OF INDIA, CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA, CITIBANK N.A., HONGKONGBANK, UNITED BANK OF INDIA, VIJAYA BANK, THE VYSYA BANK LTD. AND MASTERCARD INTERNATIONAL INC.

LINTAS RC DEL MAS 38 2738

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Executive highlights for the 90's

Top of the agenda executive wear. Dashing. Distinctive. Highly Individual. Definitely the corporate statements of the decade.

THE DASH BUSINESS WEAR COLLECTION

Dash

SHIRTS & TROUSERS

The only way to dress

Head Office : DWARKA MEN'S WEAR, New Delhi - 110031. Tel.: 2201782-83, 2213886
Bombay Office : Chintamani Building, 44-Ram Wadi, Kalba Devi, Bombay-400002, Tel.: 251590

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

INDIAN FOREIGN POLICY

Hostage to a Crisis

Muted reaction to Gulf crisis isolates India

by DILIP BOBB

IF there is any one prominent hostage to the convulsive crisis caused by Iraq's invasion of Kuwait it is Indian diplomacy. Now, six weeks after the event, New Delhi's belated and rather muted reaction to the invasion and its subsequent diplomatic stand have acquired a much sharper focus in terms of its relative isolation. Adding another crucial dimension is the fact that, in the first international crisis after the decline of the Cold War, India's stand has been at odds with a majority of the countries in the world.

Foreign Minister I.K. Gujral's hasty dash to Belgrade to inject a Non-aligned dimension to the crisis was clearly a non-starter and smacked of short-sightedness. Of the other two countries involved, Yugoslavia supported the US action while Algeria backed Baghdad. On the surface, New Delhi's efforts were seen as grasping at diplomatic straws.

Notwithstanding India's legitimate compulsions—the two lakh Indian workers stranded in Kuwait and Iraq and the crippling effect a sharp increase in oil prices will have on the country's economy—New Delhi is clearly taking a high-risk gamble. By rushing in where other angels feared to tread, the success or failure of Indian foreign policy now precariously rests on the question of Saddam Hussein's survival.

That is a dangerous dependence. The warm embrace between the peripatetic Gujral and Saddam Hussein in Baghdad—the first high-level contact by any non-Arab dignitary after the invasion—starkly symbolised what columnist Nihal Singh aptly describes as a "weak-kneed, humiliating and counter-productive" response. The fact that Saddam reneged on his assurances about Indian concerns the moment Gujral turned his back provided provocation enough for New Delhi to send a diplomatic cable to Baghdad, almost three weeks after Gujral's visit, complaining about three crucial commitments that had been dishonoured. Namely, that Indian aircraft would be allowed to land in Kuwait to pick up stranded Indians; the 1.7 lakh Indians in Kuwait would be allowed to travel to Iraqi ports to be picked up by Indian ships; and that the staff of the Indian Embassy in Kuwait, who had moved to Basra, would be allowed to travel to Kuwait to assist the Indian community there.

Baghdad's intransigence—it has not even taken the trouble to reply to New Delhi's message—was a diplomatic slap in the face. Baghdad, in fact, has stuck to its stand that any Indian aircraft or ship which is sent to rescue stranded Indians must carry food and other essential supplies, a clear violation of the sanctions imposed by the UN on Iraq.

Further, the Indian Embassy staff from Kuwait are virtual hostages in the Basra Hilton. Says 'Andy' Mukherjee, an influential businessman who has spent 20 years in Kuwait and flew back via Basra and Jordan: "The impression they gave us is that they are not allowed to move out of the hotel except under police escort."

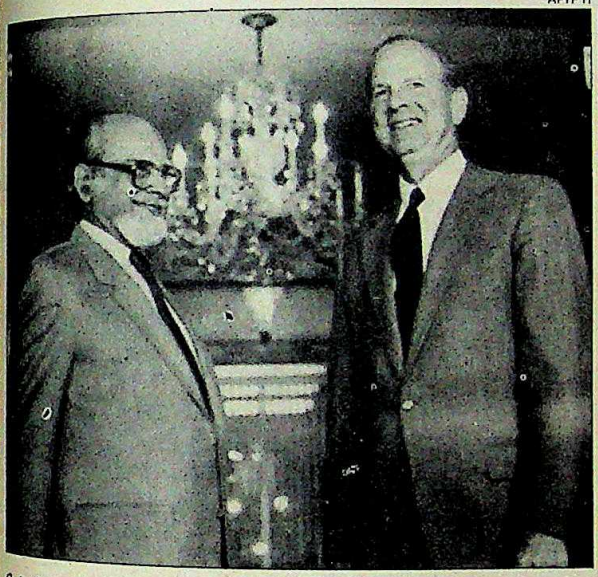
All this symbolises the fact that it is really Indian foreign policy in the larger context that is hostage to the crisis and the fall-out could be decisive. In Washington last fortnight, two high-ranking members of the House Asia Subcommittee, including Stephen Solarz who chairs the committee and is generally considered pro-India, flatly informed Foreign Secretary Muchkund Dubey that India's stand on the Gulf crisis could have a serious bearing on future decisions taken by Washington regarding Pakistan, a country that was quick to send its troops to assist the multinational force ranged against Iraq in Saudi Arabia.

That, clearly, is the crux of the issue. Gujral defends Baghdad's stand by saying that "in a war situation, their priority was understandably not India". He also points out that India has supported the United Nations sanctions on the Gulf crisis and opposed the annexation of Kuwait. India's priority, he insists, was to carry out "the biggest evacuation in history". But what is equally clear is the fact that New Delhi has decided to put all its eggs in a fragile basket. The scenario that the Indian foreign office envisages—and on which it has based New Delhi's response—goes somewhat like this.

In the long run, Iraq is going to emerge as the regional superpower. It has the military muscle and even if it withdraws from Kuwait, it will keep the disputed oil fields that give it the economic muscle as well.

The scenario is also based on the (optimistic) belief that the feudal sheikhdoms of the Middle East are an

AP/PTI



Gujral with US secretary of state Baker

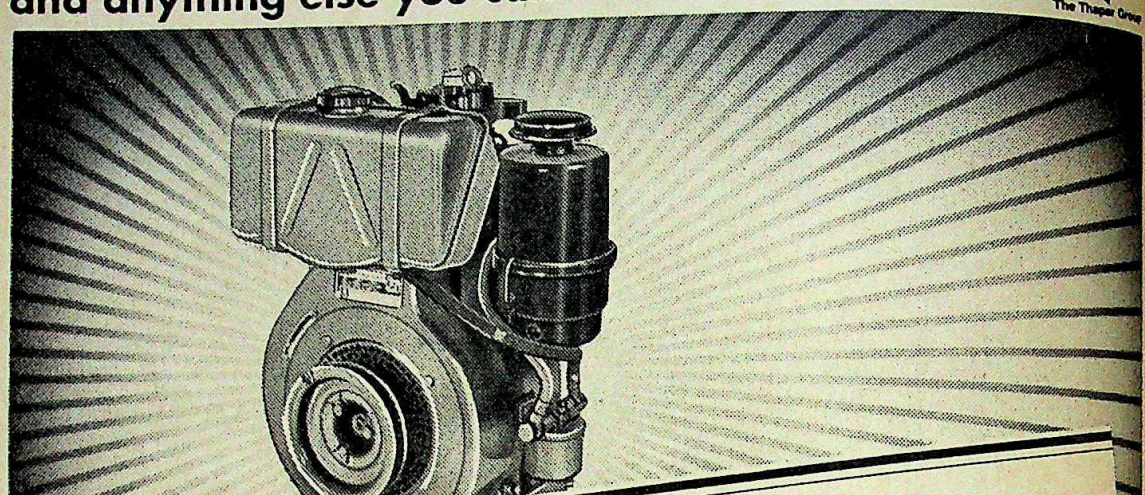
India's ambiguous stand could have a serious bearing on future decisions taken by Washington regarding Pakistan.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Over 100 uses we know of and anything else you can think of...

The Thapar Group



1/3 the size

1/4 the weight

80% saving on fuel costs in comparison to petrol engines

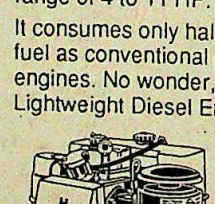
GREAVES DIESEL ENGINES

The Greaves Diesel Engine is the same Greaves Lombardini Engine you know so well. All we have changed is the name. Everything else about the engine is the same.

The Greaves Lightweight Diesel Engines have over a hundred applications and are used today by Railways, Defence, Industrial Units, the agricultural sector, small marine fishing craft and on construction sites.

It is one fourth the weight and one third the size of conventional diesel engines and is available in a range of 4 to 11 HP.

It consumes only half as much fuel as conventional petrol engines. No wonder, Greaves Lightweight Diesel Engines are exported to many countries i.e. USSR, Australia, Philippines and Kenya.



And, of course the superior Greaves quality is backed by the efficient Greaves after-sales service at 21 branches and a dealer network spread all over India.

For more information contact

SOLD & SERVICED BY GREAVES

Greaves Cotton & Co. Ltd.
Light Engine Division
1, Dr. V.B. Gandhi Marg
Bombay 400 023
• Delhi • Calcutta • Madras

Greaves Engines. The heavy duty lightweights.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

anachronism and the impetus given by Saddam Hussein will only hasten their eventual demise. "Arab sentiment is fundamentally opposed to US imperialism in concert with Zionism. They increasingly view the Americans as propping up unpopular regimes," says a senior official involved in formulating India's Gulf policy.

New Delhi's projection is that in the weeks to come, Arab popular view will begin to see the US as an army of occupation whose only interest is in propping up pro-American sheikhdoms and obtaining cheap and uninterrupted oil supplies. Says Bhabani Sen Gupta of the Centre for Policy Research who has played no insignificant role in the formulation of India's Gulf policy: "Six weeks have passed with a huge US military presence in the Gulf. The emotional underpinning to that enterprise has now almost collapsed and the cost of maintaining that presence is enormous and could lead to global recession. The Arabs will soon realise they are paying for narrow US interests and a permanent American presence in the region."

The view from South Block is that there will be significant re-alignments in the Arab world if the crisis drags on and the current power equations will no longer hold good. Also, the longer the US delays, the more difficult it will be to start a war. And, even if a conflict explodes, it will lead to thousands of Arab casualties since the only way to defeat Iraq is by massive air strikes. This, in their opinion, will only make Saddam a martyr to the larger Arab cause (a la Nasser) and stoke the fires of Arab nationalism.

This, however, is a scenario that is fervently debated and seems largely based on optimism. Most critics of India's Gulf policy foresee a scenario that is in stark contrast to the one projected by South Block.

SAYS former foreign secretary A.P. Venkateshwaran: "There is no option but a hot war simply because there is no single diplomatic initiative left." The US, he feels, has no choice but to either starve Saddam through the embargo to a point where a coup in Baghdad will be inevitable. Or, launch a massive air strike at selected targets which will destroy Saddam even at the cost of American lives. "Bush has put his presidency on the line. Backing down will destroy the myth of America as a superpower, especially since the Soviets have no role to play in the Gulf crisis," he says.

Certainly, a conflict which sees the US emerge on top will make a mockery of India's diplomatic stand. Even Sen Gupta admits that "the Americans understand our position but they do not agree with it". If the US succeeds in ousting Saddam, they will dictate oil prices and supply. In which case, India will be one of the last in the queue.

The greater concern for New Delhi is the advantages an American victory will have for Pakistan. It will assure them a permanent presence in whatever security set-up is inevitably established in the region to prevent another Saddam-type adventure. The joint statement by the US and the Soviet Union after the Helsinki summit called for a "regional security structure to maintain peace and stability in the Gulf area". India will obviously not be part of that structure while Pakistan will. Such an arrangement will also further strengthen the military ties between Washington and Islamabad.

Clearly, India's stand on the crisis has an abnormal element of risk. The "we-were-right-about-Afghanistan" refrain being used to justify India's banking on Saddam's survival is nothing more than a case of wishful thinking—the two situations are hardly comparable.

The current problem with Indian diplomacy is that it is crafted almost entirely by one individual—Gujral. The prime minister has left the foreign policy in his hands and Foreign Ministry officials openly admit that it is Gujral who provides the overall direction with a major share of the input coming from his "intellectual" cronies rather than from his colleagues in the ministry.

The problem with that is Gujral, despite his obvious qualifications for the job, is also intimately involved in the maelstrom of domestic crises that have engulfed the Government, not the least being Punjab. Consequently, foreign policy does not receive his undivided attention. "He has taken a stand (on the Gulf crisis) based on his own principles and projections. Whichever way the cookie crumbles, he is prepared to take the credit or the flak," says a senior colleague in the ministry. Judging by the current odds, it is likely to be the latter.

New Delhi's assumption is that the Arabs will soon see the US army as an occupying force and realise they are paying for narrow US interests.

AFP

US Marines in Saudi Arabia: the keys to the Kingdom?

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED FINANCIAL ANALYSTS OF INDIA

(In collaboration with The Institute of Chartered Financial Analysts, Virginia, USA)

ADMISSION NOTICE

THE CFA PROGRAMME

ICFA (USA) & ICFAI Collaboration

- Evaluation and critique of study programme and material as well as examination on an on-going basis.
- Involvement in study material development and related matters.
- ICFA (USA) countersigning the 'CFA' certificate awarded by ICFAI.
- Representation of the President of ICFA (USA) on the Board of Governors of ICFAI.

The American Institute

The Institute of Chartered Financial Analysts, set up in 1959 at Virginia, USA is the only institution of its kind in the world. It offers a three year training programme leading to the designation Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) which is a highly valued professional qualification. Since its inception it has awarded the CFA designation to about 12,500 candidates. Interested in advancing the cause of professionalism in the field of financial analysis, it is collaborating with the Institute of Chartered Financial Analysts of India, in offering the CFA Programme in India. There is an in-built facility for Indian CFAs to acquire the CFA qualification from ICFA, USA.

The Indian Institute

The Institute of Chartered Financial Analysts of India has been established in 1984 as a non-profit educational society. ICFAI is a member of:

- Asian Securities Analysts Council, Japan.
- International Council for Distance Education, Norway.
- The International Coordinating Committee of Financial Analysts Associations, Paris.

The CFA Programme

The CFA Programme is a three year training programme primarily focusing on financial analysis and its application in three broad areas: Corporate Financial Management, Investment Management, Management of Financial Institutions and Financial Services.

The programme is divided into three levels, six groups and twelve subjects:

Preliminary

Financial Accounting	Quantitative Methods
Financial Management	Economics

Inter

Economic Legislation	Security Evaluation
Management Accounting	Project Appraisal

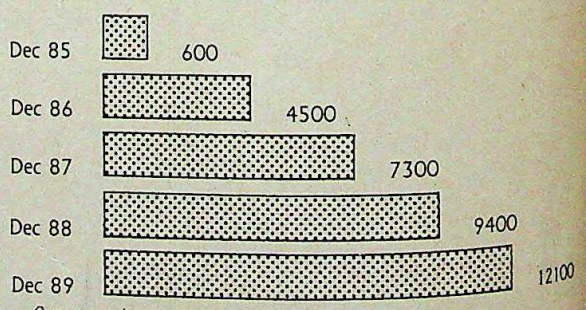
Final

Adv. Financial Management	Investment Management
Financial Services	Indian Financial System

Subject-wise waivers are available as indicated in the Prospectus.

Leading institutions like RBI, IDBI, UTI, ICICI and IFCI reimburse the CFA Programme fee to their staff.

CFA Enrolments



Current enrolments exceed 13,000

Eligibility:

Graduation (any discipline). Final year students can also apply. The applicants are required to qualify in the Admission Test (Date: Jan. 20 1991) to be conducted at 25 centres. Certain categories of applicants such as CAs/CWAs/ACSs/MBAs/CAIIBs/First Class Graduates/First Class Post-Graduates are exempted from the Admission Test.

Prospectus

Please write with complete address and a DD for Rs. 50 drawn in favour of 'ICFAI' to: The Administrative Officer (CFA),

The Institute of Chartered Financial Analysts of India,
Road No. 3, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad 500 034.
Phone: 229062, 229286, Grams: 'ICFAI' Telex: 0425-6065 CFA IN.
FAX: 0842-229107

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

India's international bank in 146 countries.

Citibank. To the tens of thousands of Indians living in faraway places such as Woolongong, Australia; Salalah, Oman; Eldoret, Kenya; Corpus Christi, USA... Citibank is the Indian bank.

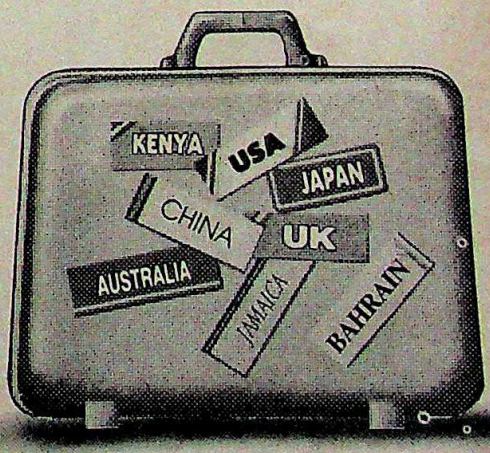
Non Resident Indians represent an enormous pool of talent and resources for India. And for a growing and vibrant country, buoyant foreign currency reserves are as important as overflowing granaries.

Citibank is an important reason for more than 50,000 Non Resident Indians in 146 countries to link their future with the future of their mother country.

Today, Citibank takes pride in having brought in foreign currency deposits well in excess of Rs. 1000 crores.

Citibank and the NRI: a successful team working together. Like him, we are international.

And like him, we are at home.



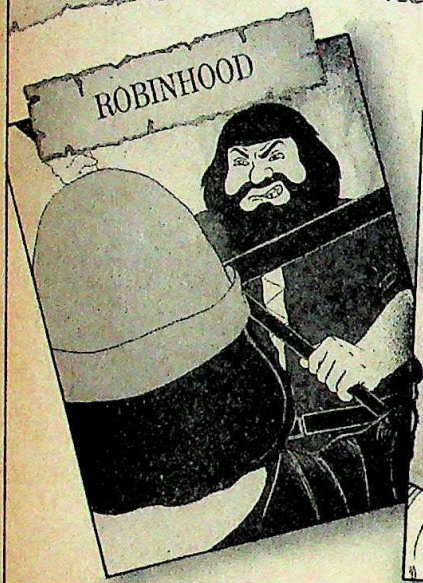
CITICORP ✚ CITIBANK®

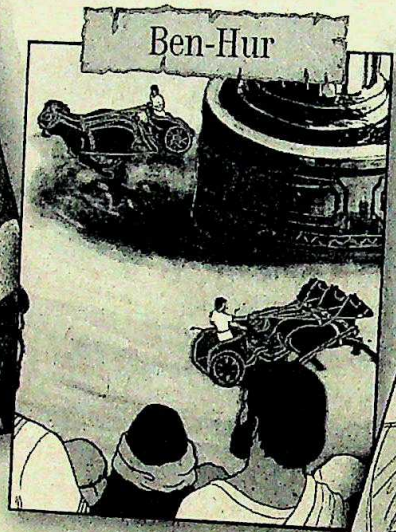
With India. Since 1902.

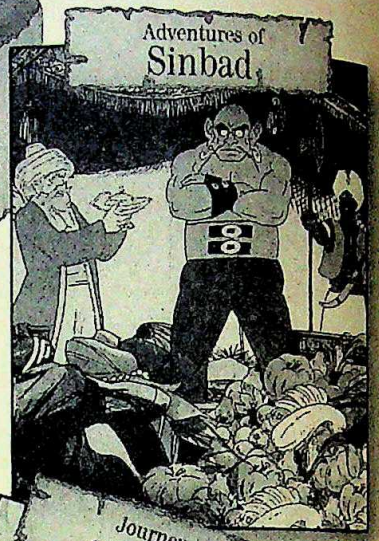
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

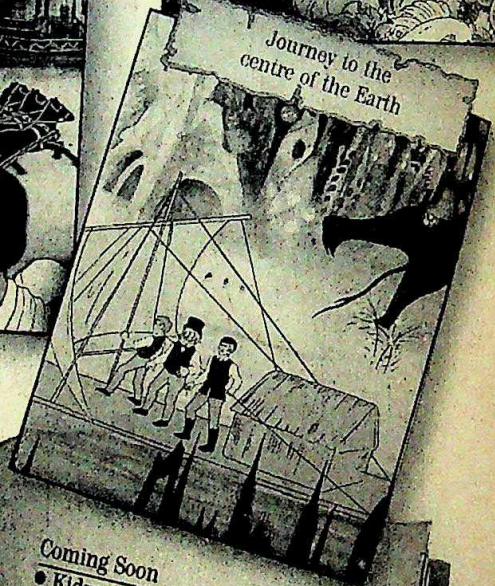
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Now on video
Tales of adventure, mystery & fantasy









CHILDREN'S CLASSIC STORIES
by world famous authors

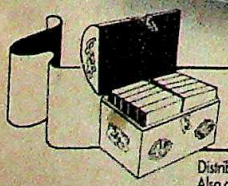
Videolearn'n'Videoenjoy

Coming Soon
- Kidnapped
- Swiss Family Robinson
- Moby Dick
- Off on a comet
- Les Miserables
- Charles Dickens Ghost Stories
- Black Arrow

And 17 more titles

Releasing soon:
'How Things Work'
video encyclopedia

Special Offer
FREE VIDEO CASSETTE
Collect 12 coupons and get Free one video cassette



SHEMAROO-SUNRAY
Video Treasure Chest Collection

Western-Northern Region.
Shemaroo Video Recording (Bom). Pvt. Ltd.
Unit 19, Prabhadevi Indl. Estate, V.S. Marg
Prabhadevi, Bombay-400 025.

Southern-Eastern Region
Sun Videos Pvt. Ltd.
20, Govindu Street
T.Nagar, Madras-600 017.

Distributors For Delhi: IBD Electronics Pvt. Ltd., M-66, M.Block Market, Greater Kailash Part II, New Delhi-110 048.
Also available by V.P.P. at Rs.135

VENART/GA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

PAKISTAN

The Crackdown Begins

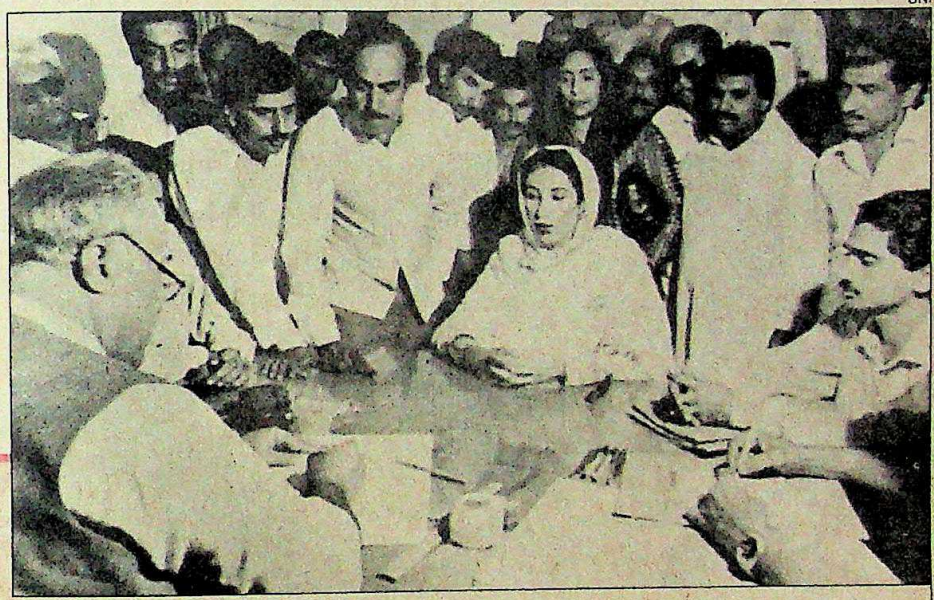
Government begins to turn the screws on Benazir

THE noose is clearly tightening around former prime minister Benazir Bhutto and her associates. Last fortnight, President Ghulam Ishaq Khan referred four cases of corruption and abuse of power against her to the special tribunals while another case was filed in the Lahore High Court accusing her of misusing secret service funds to win over the wavering loyalties of legislators. Conviction on any of these charges could carry either a prison sentence of up to 10 years or disqualification from contesting elections for seven years.

With her husband Asif Ali Zardari already having taken anticipatory bail and many of her former ministers facing trial on different counts, Benazir clearly has her back to the wall. What is equally evident is that the military-backed caretaker administration will do everything in its power to prevent the fiery young politician from occupying the prime minister's chair once again.

This situation is not new for Benazir. But despite its efforts, the interim Government has failed to contain her and she is once again riding a sympathy wave. "We are not going to take things lying down. We will fight on every front," she says, adding: "A frightened administration is desperately trying to disqualify me to prevent my party's return to power."

UNI



Benazir (right) and husband Zardari filing their nomination papers: fighting back

UNI

Despite efforts, the interim Government has failed to contain Benazir who once again is riding a sympathy wave.

But with the interim Government leaving no stone unturned to corner her, that could still happen. Two tribunals headed by high court judges started hearing the cases against her at Karachi and Lahore last week. Besides, Benazir has been ordered to appear before the tribunal at Lahore on October 2 to explain why she should not be held guilty of misconduct for manipulating the allotment of a piece of land in violation of rules. She is accused of giving 287 acres of prime land at a throwaway price to some relatives for construction of a luxury hotel in Islamabad. Other charges include causing the exchequer a loss of over Rs 200 million by selling cotton to one company at a lower price and appointing a consultant for Karachi Electric Supply Corporation. Many observers believe these charges are flimsy and will most likely be dismissed by the court—but only if the verdict is unbiased.

The much trumpeted accountability process undertaken by the President and the caretaker administration, in fact, received a serious jolt last fortnight when the judge of a special tribunal at Lahore threw out the charges of corruption against Jahangir Badar, a former federal minister. As accountability is being demanded only of those members of the National Assembly who belong to Benazir's Pakistan People's Party (PPP), the whole exercise is seen as a part of the interim Government's strategy to oust her from the political arena. The composition of the caretaker cabinet which includes some corrupt politicians has also discredited the drama.

Benazir has also flung some charges . She has called for the setting up of a special judicial commission constituting Supreme Court judges to investigate the conduct of all the presidents and prime ministers since 1985—including Ishaq Khan. "Relatives of Ghulam Ishaq Khan had bank

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

loans written off," she charges. Besides, she has demanded resignation of the President, who she says is orchestrating the campaign against her.

Despite the President's best efforts to tie her down in court cases, Benazir kicked off her election campaign by announcing plans to contest five National Assembly seats. Husband Zardari—involved in several criminal cases, ranging from bank fraud to possessing unlicenced Kalashnikoves—also entered the political fray by announcing his decision to contest the National Assembly seat from his home town, Nawabshah. The seat was earlier held by his father, Hakim Ali Zardari, who left for London just before the August 6 constitutional coup. Although family sources claim he was in London to look after his ailing wife, observers feel he will not return to the country—at least before the polls—for fear of conviction. The controversial father-in-law of the ousted prime minister, who was also the chairman of the Public Accounts Committee of the dissolved National Assembly, is allegedly involved in several cases of corruption.

Still, it was the son who was considered all-powerful in Sind during Benazir's 20-month rule. Explaining the reason for entering politics, Asif told INDIA TODAY: "I am not a political sort, but the events have pushed me into this position. At least I will be able to defend myself from the floor of the National Assembly." In a rare interview during his election campaign, he quipped: "At least after getting elected I won't be called the unelected spouse of the prime minister who is interfering in the administration."

Should the PPP return to power in Sind and Asif win from Nawabshah, many believe that he will be appointed chief minister of Sind. But the elections will be no cakewalk for Asif despite the sympathy wave for Benazir in her home province. For he is pitted against Murtafa Jatoi, the eldest son of the caretaker Prime Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, who has his own feudal influence in the district. Moreover, the Mohajirs who are strongly opposed to the PPP make up around 25 per cent of the electorate in the constituency.

WITH the former prime minister's husband pitted against the son of the caretaker prime minister, Nawabshah may witness one of the fiercest electoral battles. Currently, Asif appears to have a slight edge over his opponent. But the main question is whether he will be free to contest the polls. For there are many indications that he could be arrested and forced to face trial by a special court for fraudulently acquring huge loans from government-controlled banks for his friends and business partners, many of whom have already been detained.

What should worry him is the confessional statement of Fouzi Ali Kazmi, one of his cronies, who was arrested soon after the ouster of Benazir. Kazmi has admitted that he got a loan of Rs 300 million through Asif for whom he was working as front man. Two top former officials of the bank involved have already been arrested and it is likely that Asif will be put to trial on fraud charges—which carry a sentence up to 20 years—before the October 24 elections. Asif, however, appears confident that the Government would not be able to substantiate the charges. "Kazmi's statement was false and obtained under duress," he claims. "They kept him in a torture cell and came out with this statement."

Putting up a brave front, he dismisses all the allegations against him as nothing more than mere fabrication by the interim administration. "If I am involved in so many crimes, then why they could not provide evidence against me so far?" he asks.

What could work to his and his wife's advantage is the fact that the Government's strategy to force Benazir out of the political arena appears to have misfired to some extent. For due to the overkill on the part of the interim Government, Benazir has gained considerable public sympathy. And while she has definitely gained political ground, the 'establishment' efforts to bring her squabbling opponents on one platform have failed. Should there be a free and fair election, many observers expect the PPP to sweep the polls; or at least come up with an impressive performance.

But the all-powerful generals who masterminded Benazir's ouster are determined to see that she does not regain power. Should Benazir appear to be on a winning streak as October 24 approaches, the military junta will do everything possible to disqualify her from contesting the polls.

Should that not prove possible—and Benazir appears all set to win—then the chances of the elections being held according to the current schedule seem remote. In that event a long spell of quasi-military rule will most likely follow. For the people of Pakistan, that will mean being once again deprived of their democratic rights.

—ZAHID HUSSAIN in Islamabad

PRAMOD PUSHKARNA

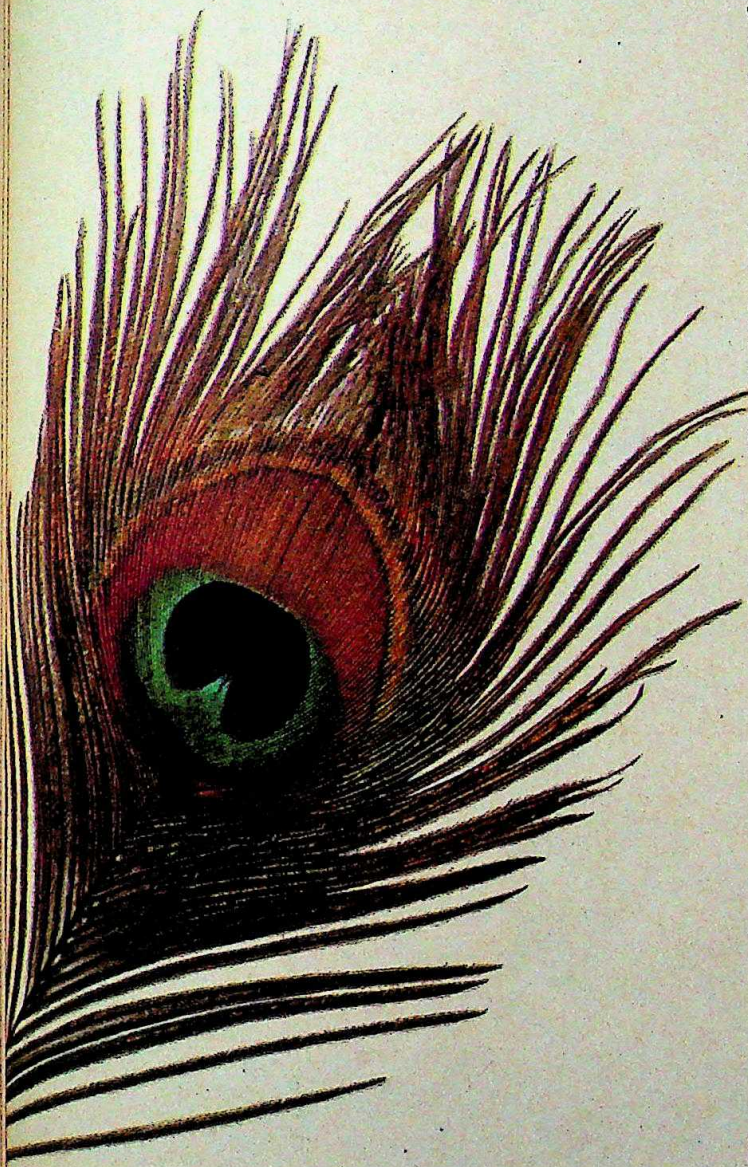
Jatoi (left) and Ishaq Khan: orchestrating the onslaught

The inclusion of some corrupt politicians in the caretaker cabinet has discredited the accountability drama.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

It's not on birds alone that feathers look good.



Many a time, it takes simple logic to manufacture what is required.

The Indian weaving industry, by inducting hi-tech looms, started producing world-class fabrics to meet the discerning tastes of the Indian public.

And Indo Rama set up a state-of-the-art 25,344 spindles plant to meet the requirement of the sophisticated weaving looms which would not work except with top-quality, zero-error yarn.

Which explains why the electronically-cleared, spliced, knot-less and contamination-free synthetic blended yarns from Indo Rama have become the first choice of all major textile manufacturers and exporters in India. In just one year.

And why over 50 percent of the company's production is exported to premium Europe – Germany, France, Italy, the UK, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Switzerland.

And also why the company is already on its way to doubling its capacity with a 100% export oriented Cotton and Polyester/ Cotton yarn project.

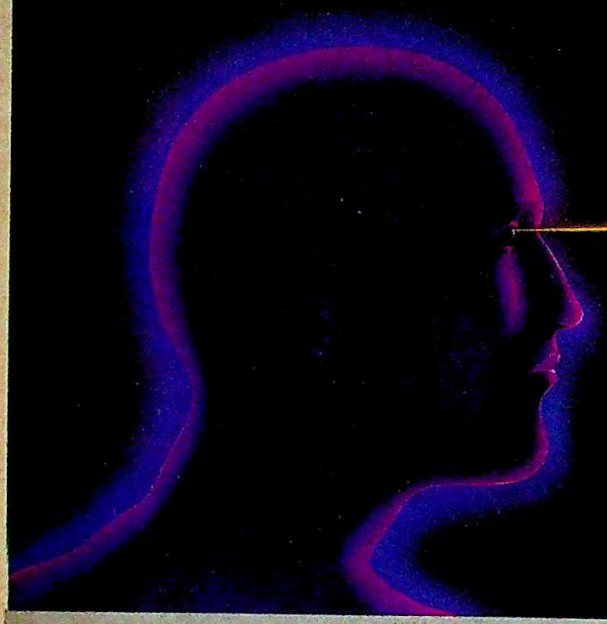
We have earned our feathers. The birds will be eating their hearts out.

INDO RAMA
SYNTHETICS (I) LTD.
903, Mohan Dev Building,
13, Tolstoy Marg,
New Delhi 110001

We / have / only / scratched / the / surface

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Perfecting Precision



Position of leadership in automotive instrumentation was the first step for Pricol ➤ A leadership position attained and maintained by building on inherent resources ➤ By bringing out latent strengths ➤ By the determination to remain contemporary in technology ➤ Today Pricol is growing laterally too ➤ Diversifying into specialised technologies and then into products that meet specialised needs ➤ Counters and controls ➤ Precision Machine Tools ➤ Industrial Electronics - SMPS & UPS systems to back up the computer age are but two of them ➤ And the future is brimming with possibilities ➤ Fifteen years of successful application engineering gives Pricol the confidence to explore these possibilities, channelise technologies yet again, to diversify ➤ And growth comes as natural corollary to this spirit of innovation ➤

pricol

The spirit of innovation. The foundation of technology.

Premier Instruments & Controls Limited
Post Box No. 6331
1087 B/C Avanashi Road Coimbatore 641 037 India
PHONE: 0422 31521-4 FAX: 0422-33028
TELEX: 0855-376 PIL IN CABLE: PRICOL

AUTOMOTIVE INSTRUMENTS / SMALL MACHINE TOOLS / COUNTERS & CONTROLS / SMPS & UPS SYSTEMS

MAA COMMUNICATIONS

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ART AUCTIONS

Socialite Evenings

Ostentation and gimmickry invade auction scene

As with everything to do with M.F. Husain, the build-up was massive. And for once with apparent reason: the barefoot badshah of Indian art was celebrating his 75th birthday. Media interest was whipped up, hype generated, and the glitterati's appetite for razzmatazz whetted with gimmickry.

In the event, the pudding went a bit flat on the revellers. The bash at the Famous Cine Studio in Central Bombay had neither the pulsating excitement of the Sotheby's auction last year on a naval training ship, nor the freshness of the Christie's auction at the Taj some three years ago. Worse, the canvas Husain had painted on his birthday, September 17—depicting a large horse flanked by a faceless old man, presumably the painter's self-image—did not excite frenetic bidding, and was picked up by socialite Parameshwar Godrej in a ping-pong battle with a solitary bidder. Not that it did not fetch an astronomical price: the rather ordinary 7x5 ft canvas fetched Rs 12.5 lakh, which is nine times more expensive per square foot than real estate on Nariman Point.

The price the painting fetched was the only highpoint of the event; the rest of the celebration was a series of low points, symbolising the sham and farce that is rapidly seeping into Indian art. For starters, you attended the function not if you were an art lover, but if you had the money. A donor's card came with a price-tag of Rs 1,000.

Not surprisingly, few of the known collectors and gallery-owners were present at the bash. Most of those who thronged the hall were the nouveau riche of Bombay: businessmen and industrialists, with mascaraed wives in astonishing once-only-wearables, dressed as if for a royal wedding. Husain himself came sporting a black kimono, with a red cummerbund and bandhani chunni. And the women cajoled him into signing their dupattas or pallavs.

Husain's 75th birthday celebration symbolised the sham and farce that is seeping into Indian art.

Bombay's bleary-eyed nouveau riche require something unusual to stimulate them. But the video-weary generation used to pressing the fast-forward button everytime a scene gets boring, got such a *tamasha* for their money as they wouldn't want to be seen savouring, especially with their wives around.

Pure kitsch abounded. *Lavani* singers from Central Bombay, *mujrewalis* from the *kothas* of Kennedy Bridge, and Jani Baboo's *qawwals* rent the air. Alongside played old Hindi film numbers, even as the guests milled around, struck by heat and claustrophobia, barely hanging on to their Pista Punches and Bloody Marys. Then, new heights of ludicrousness were scaled as four nubile teenagers in yellow nylon frocks emerged from nowhere, singing: *Tum jiyo hazaaron sal, sal ke din ho pachas hazaar*.

Instead of remaining a sensitive tribute to a contemporary master, the evening rapidly devolved into a backslapping session for Rotarians (the

Godrej (left) and Husain: art and money

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Pure Gold!

Now, Uranus II. The most advanced dual-deck microcomponent music system, incorporating Dolby® NR.* With such outstanding features as high-speed synchro dubbing, found only on the most expensive models of world famous brands.

Uranus II by Sonodyne. It's for the chosen few. It's for you.

The deck alone is a stunner. With pace-setting high-speed and 'Synchro'dubbing facilities. A Dolby Noise Reduction Circuit. And a 6-LED peak reading VU meter for precision recording.

The amplifier delivers a tremendous punch of 400 watts (PMPO). Loudness controls and a special hi-filter eliminate distortion. Logic controlled touch switches allow input selection. And there are mixing facilities — and a microphone input too!

The graphic equaliser allows you to engineer sound to suit the acoustics of your room. The finely balanced, belt-driven turntable makes for prefect tracking. The AM/FM stereo multiplex tuner catches local and overseas broadcasts. And the integrated 3-way, 3-speaker system with a wide-angle dome tweeter produces 400 watts' music power.

Uranus II.

Welcome to the Golden Age in audio engineering.

Uranus II is a totality of SD580 cassette deck, SA580 stereo integrated amplifier, ST500 FM/AM tuner, SQ500 graphic equaliser, SP500 turntable and SX900 speaker system.

SONODYNE

uranus II

* Dolby® is the registered trademark of the Dolby Laboratories Licensing Corporation, USA.

Music has never sounded ri

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

organisers), some of whose exposure to canvas must have till then been restricted to the shoes they wore at high school. So they did what they are best at: strike deals with share brokers, exchange political gossip with the likes of Santosh Bharatiya and Murli Deora, swoon over Raj Babbar and Kabir Bedi, thump Sunil Gavaskar's back for giving a fitting reply to 'the British Raj', ogle at Pooja Bedi's low neckline-backless choli, and sigh over Sharon Prabhakar's smartly-cut bitsy-bitsy black mini-skirt. As for the wives, they could be heard complaining that the choice of music was bad: "Instead of these boring old songs why don't they play *jamma chumma?*"

For those who would argue that all the crassness is worth it since it's all for charity, Bangalore-based social scientist Srilatha Batliwala has an observation or two. Says she: "The irony is that the nature of the fund-raising event is in total contradiction to the cause it is meant to support: opulent dinners for the hungry, fashion shows for the ragged, sight-seeing tours for the blind."

But one positive outcome of the art bazaar extending to the low-brow-high income group is that art prices have soared and artists are getting good money. As columnist Shobha De asks rhetorically: "Why should it be essential that artists must always reinforce the cliche-ridden image of a struggling, starving human being?" While few can dispute that, legitimate and troubling questions arise: Is good art getting into the right hands? And will bad taste chase out good? After all, what is there to prevent semi-literate tycoons from commissioning, at fat fees, garish tributes to the famous *Ek Do Teen* song in future.

For it is clear that art has now become a signpost of culture, and the pan-parag chewing, safari-wearing Moneybag and his chiffon-clad, diamond-laden wife, Moneyben, have arrived, hungry for culture and status in the city's ever-changing pecking order. Homo Culturus has moved on from making the right contacts at parties to hosting Pankaj Udhas to buying art. As cartoonist Hemant Morparia observes in a recent cartoon—it is Zaveri's Law of Equivalence in action: Alpha (per sq inch value of painting) equals K (ignorance factor of the buyer) times R (sq ft rate of flat) divided by two.

Auctions conducted by Sotheby's (above) and Christie's: booming art bazaar

The trend is unmistakeable: speculators with disposable cash are turning to art to make a killing, egged on by the exposure given by the glossies. For example, B. Arunkumar's, the country's leading diamond dealers who bought Husain's canvas at Sotheby's, found themselves in the colour pages of the *Illustrated Weekly of India*. And if the Christie's auction at the Taj in December 1987 raked in Rs 17.5 lakh for Helpage India from 31 canvases, the Sotheby's—as part of *The Times of India* sesquicentennial in 1989—fetched Rs 44 lakh. Nor have the *jholawalas* proved immune to the auction mania: the Safdar Hashmi Trust held one in Delhi last year. And the fervour mounts. Next month, Bombay will host a Manjit Bawa auction, and in February, Asprey's of London will auction 51 paintings for Helpage India at the Taj.

But the spiralling prices and the mad collection spree that the country is witnessing make for an uneasy feeling. For even substandard artists' rates are shooting up. And the hordes of new entrants, who see art as an investment, seem to think prices can only go up. Misleading statistics abound. One point being made is that Husain has appreciated 100 per cent in only one year: his so-called tribute to Safdar Hashmi (Rs 10 lakh)—in which an allegedly old canvas was touched up and a fresh date added—was priced at Rs 17,152 per sq ft, while the recent painting was worth Rs 35,714 per sq ft. Such comparisons are corny, a bit like comparing graphite prices last year with diamond prices this year and then claiming 1,000 per cent appreciation because both are carbon compounds.

Clearly, a combination of ignorance and money is reducing art to a commodity. With prices soaring, few of the old collectors willing to sell, and more and more artists coming up, it is a veritable sellers' market, where galleries have become promoters. Art exhibitions are now events, with glittering, exclusive evenings, and the kind of marketing and hype that smooth MBAs conjure up. And though India is still to experience any art scandals, the arrival of big money—from NRIs, speculators and diamond merchants—could soon lead to them.

And one can safely leave it to Husain to symbolise the eccentricities and ecstasies of Indian art, its style and its sham. And last fortnight he did it again in many ways. The final twist of irony being that while Godrej coughed up Rs 12.5 lakh for an autograph by the master, many got it for free—on their donor cards and dupattas.

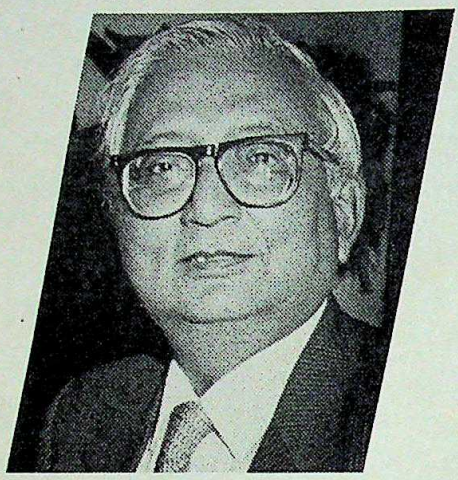
—SALIL TRIPATHI

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

 Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

LARSEN & TOUBRO LIMITED – CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT 1990

Extracts from the statement of Mr. D.N. Ghosh, Chairman, Larsen & Toubro Limited. Forty-fifth Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, September 19, 1990.



I think the occasion of our Annual General Meeting is much more than a report on the performance of the Company. For me, this is an affirmation of faith, and a coming together of all the values that have made L&T the Company it is today.

I must begin on an admittedly personal note. When I joined the L&T Board, my knowledge of L&T was limited to its pre-eminent position in the engineering industry and consistent financial performance. Only after I joined and saw this organisation from the inside was I able to fully appreciate the values on which this Company has been based. These values are of two kinds – some generally recognised as good management practices and others uniquely practised in this organisation.

The first uniqueness about L&T is the utmost simplicity of its strategic direction from its inception. In the 1950's when it became apparent that India would have a planned economy, it made astute business sense to develop expertise and technology and to be able to put the plans into execution. That, in a nutshell is the L&T corporate mainstay till now.

The second uniqueness of L&T lies in its ability to develop internal resources – both material and human – to meet market demands. This has been possible because of the conscious decisions to recruit only on merit, and develop a multitude of anciliaries and vendors in India and abroad. The concept of Human Capital is an integral part of L&T's manpower resource development.

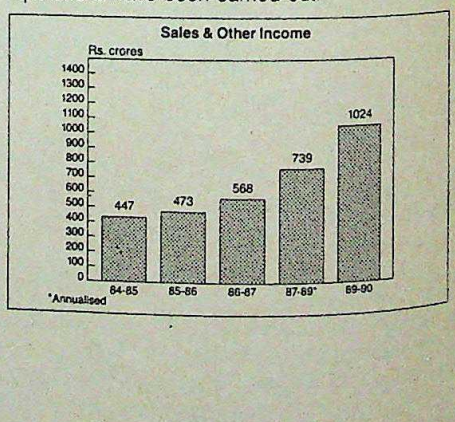
Finally the one feature that has impressed me imme L&T's ability to assimilate new technology from abroad and it into action. More importantly, L&T's style has been to integ technologies into the ongoing workstream. In this context, that the assimilation of technology – our critical success factor sible only with the right kind of people.

What, then, is L&T today? A pioneer in the manufactu equipment, hydraulic excavators, nuclear reactors; the larg facturer of low tension switchgear; a major innovator in co technology; a leading manufacturer of plant and machinery industries, space research, defence projects; and a major pro premium quality cement. A result of correct reading of the absorption of expertise from foreign collaborators and deve through intensive in-house R&D efforts. And all this, with a q tise characteristic of engineers, moulded by a strong sense sionalism and the backing of a sound organisation.

PERFORMANCE DURING THE LAST YEA

It is against this background that I am proud to high features of our operation, reflected in financial terms for the ing 31st March 1990.

A healthy growth of 38.5% in net sales and other inc made us a Rs. 1024-crore Company in 1989-90. That squarely among the top 5 private sector giants in the coun far the biggest in our chosen business — a diversified man Company making engineering products. Over 50% growth before tax and profit after tax testifies to the efficiency with operations have been carried out.



Since the ning, L&T an unbro tory of dividends that is enough kind of share place in

EXCITING
We can look
ction is, whe
e were many
There are pro
ing machine
e got to kno
ocension and
on a short p
cess is one
g our interes
ng our activi
OUR STR
I would like
r a country
India is faci
is for drast
ge earnings.
e fought for,
s look at pote
d goods (as
rt" products
onger enoug
ced price in
se goods in
One school
up of the Ind
have major
n maturity an
eate a sustai
This will happe
gently and
ive Year Plan
and capital
effect on cos
This calls fo
rt and dynar

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

T 1990

pressed me imme
m abroad and o
as been to integra
In this context, we
al success factor

n the manufactur
actors; the larges
innovator in co
t and machinery
; and a major pro
ct reading of the
orators and deve
all this, with a qu
a strong sense o
nisation.

HE LAST YEA
m proud to highlig
ial terms for the y

les and other in
1989-90. That
nts in the count
diversified man
ver 50% growth
efficiency with

Since the
ning, L&T
an unbro
tory of
dividends
that is
enough
kind of
share
place in

EXCITING GROWTH PLANS

We can look back at last year with a justifiable degree of pride. Question is, where do we go from here. When I joined the Company there were many exciting new projects at advanced stages of finalisation. There are projects in cement, heavy engineering, plastic and mining machinery, electricals and electronics, and construction. As we got to know our businesses better, the basic philosophy of expansion and diversification has become clear. It can be summed up in a short phrase: "DOING MORE OF WHAT WE DO BEST". Success is one of both widening and deepening our businesses – focusing our interests carefully in well evaluated strength areas, and focusing our activities in the areas we are already involved in.

OUR STRENGTH AREAS

I would like to dwell a little on an issue that is of critical importance for a country of our size and in our state of development.

India is facing an enormous Balance of Payments problem and calls for drastic measures to step up exports, and thus foreign exchange earnings. These are no longer easy to come by. Every dollar must be fought for, in direct competition with established world leaders. We look at potential sources for foreign exchange earnings, manufactured goods (as opposed to minerals, handicrafts, tourism and "soft" products), is now the critical area where we must succeed. It is no longer enough for us to be competitive with imported goods at inflated price in India. It is imperative that we be viable contenders against these goods in their countries of origin.

One school of thought calls for an immediate and complete opening up of the Indian industry to international competition and technology. I have major reservations about this. We have to view this situation with maturity and restraint. We have not just to import technology but to create a sustainable source of wealth generation for decades to come. This will happen by a concerted effort to assimilate the technology intelligently and very quickly. In fact the draft of the approach to the Eighth Five Year Plan states "A substantial cost reduction in the intermediate and capital goods industries will have a powerful and wide multiplier effect on costs and competitiveness in all segments of Indian industry. This calls for a purposive and far-sighted policy to achieve a vibrant and dynamic technological and manufacturing capability. Import of know-how should be accompanied by measures to build up and utilise indigenous capability for design and engineering as well as technological improvement. The formulation of a long – term action programme with this perspective should, therefore, command a high priority."

FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

This is exactly what L&T has been doing ever since inception and should continue to do in the future. The key to successfully implementing this policy is to develop human capital because this is what converts technology into a means of production and a means for producing wealth. L&T has had very fruitful relationships with world leaders in technology, and has ensured that the interaction has been equally profitable. We need to express our deep sense of appreciation to our collaborators all over the world and to our human capital, which has made this possible.

What do we need to do in the future? Starting from the solid base we have established in India, we should now strengthen ourselves further while the world opens up. The impetus for doing so has to be self-generated, and should not be based on Government pressures like the "export imperative". We cannot afford to be complacent about our pre-eminent position in the Indian industrial scene. We are proud of our professionalism and expertise in India and we now need to set higher benchmarks for ourselves, in the global arena. To put it in a nutshell, L&T should now look at itself as a global player.

We are at the threshold of a new phase in L&T's history, as indeed we were in the 1950's. Then, we decided to closely follow the development of the core sector in India. Today, we need to follow industrial development worldwide.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all our business associates, our dedicated employees, the directors on the Board, our collaborators, and our valued customers, for having helped the Company to make this year so successful.I also wish to thank our shareholders for the confidence they continue to place in the Company.

I wish all of you the very best.

Thank you.

LARSEN & TOUBRO LIMITED

AS SOLID AS WHAT WE BUILD.

This does not purport to be a report of the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting.

CC-0. In Public Do

Contract.L&T.317.90.

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Now, the World's most powerfully reported global business newsweekly at your doorstep week after week.

Rated "Most Reliable" of all English-language magazines by over 1000 top international executives from among the largest companies in Europe, North America and the Far East.

Reading Business Week International is like having an accurate detailed road map leading to the future.

Each article is written, designed, and illustrated to be quick, clear, concise and easy to follow — A weekly briefing of Global business news designed to be read, digested and used by the hyper-busy business leader who nevertheless must stay world informed.

Each week you are offered an analysis and interpretation of how current world events are likely to affect you, your company and the future.

And that's just the beginning! week after week Business Week International takes you there from the dramatic developments in the East Bloc and third world markets to the middle east crisis. Plus career tips to stay ahead of the crowd.

Special Reports featured in Business week International.

- Business Travel — The usual way and the best way.
- International hot growth companies:- A profile of the fastest growing and most successful companies.
- The most valuable International Companies.
- Global finance trends in currency values, Trade imbalances and balances.
- Business Information, marketing, corporate strategies, international money management and lots more.

Business Week International is air delivered to India by India Book Distributors.

To join the most successful, knowledgeable and best informed group of business readers and leaders in the world pick your copy today.

News stand price
Rs. 50/- per copy
51 issues per annum.

Available at all leading book stores.

INTERNATIONAL BusinessWeek

Your window to the world of business.

bd

Distributed in India By:
India Book Distributors 107/108 Arcadia, 195 Nariman Point
Bombay 400 021. Tel: 224 646, 225 220, 224 691

For our special subscription offer call or write to the subscription Manager at the above address.

Ashwati

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

UNITED KINGDOM

Making Sound Waves

Asians tune in gleefully to ethnic radio stations

FROM the corner of an Indian restaurant in London comes the whiff of kebabs and curry and the strains of some funky Hindi music. In Ealing, a tired Shahana Patel slips in to her car and presses a button to catch a Lata Mangeshkar melody. Nothing unusual about that. Except that the stereophonic sound comes not from a compact disc player or a cassette player but from an ordinary radio.

No longer do Asians in Britain have to turn to television's Channel 4 for ethnic entertainment. From Southall to Birmingham to Bradford, over 1 million Indians, Pakistanis, Bangladeshis and Sri Lankans can now tune in to ethnic radio stations which cater exclusively to them. After years of a token weekly Hindi music slot and never-ending chat shows in English, these radios are everything home-sick Asians have longed for but were afraid to ask for: their own music, home news and, most importantly, their own language. Frequently, they also get to chat with visiting mega-stars from Bollywood. And sometimes they can even find a life-partner through radio marriage services.

Among the major ethnic radio stations that provide a slender link between first-generation Indians in Britain and the Indian subcontinent are Radio Sunrise, Harmony FM, Spectrum and Bradford City Radio. As Amin Sayani sound-alikes belt out announcements in Hindi, Gujarati, Punjabi and English, news is read out in Hindustani, and Hindi film music jostles with commercials for saris and tandoori take-aways, the Asian community's enthusiasm grows.

Listeners can chat with visiting Bollywood mega-stars and can often find their life partners through radio marriage services.

The radio stations were an overwhelming hit from the word go. When an advertisement inviting letters of intent for 24 specialist radio stations was put out two years ago, the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA), a semi-official body that hands out radio licences, was flooded with 540 applications. Three of the licences were then given to radios that would cater mostly to Asians—and Sunrise, Bradford City Radio and Harmony FM were born. Said an IBA spokesman: "At the moment, the demand for ethnic services far outstrips the output."

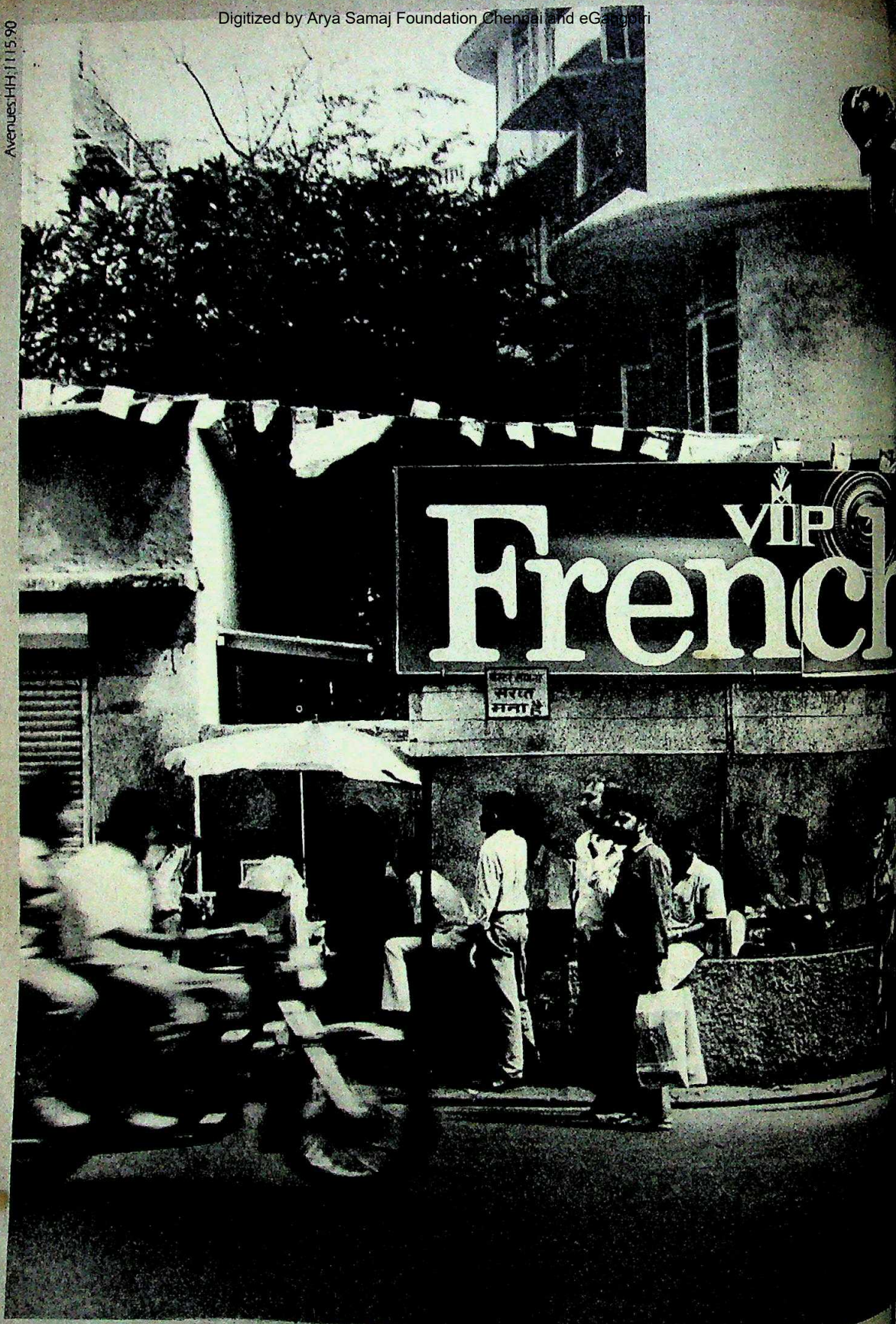
The oldest and most successful radio station so far has been Sunrise, owned by suave 38-year-old Sikh broadcaster Avtar Lit. Owner also of

Avtar Lit; and (below) Amitabh Bachchan at Radio Sunrise

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

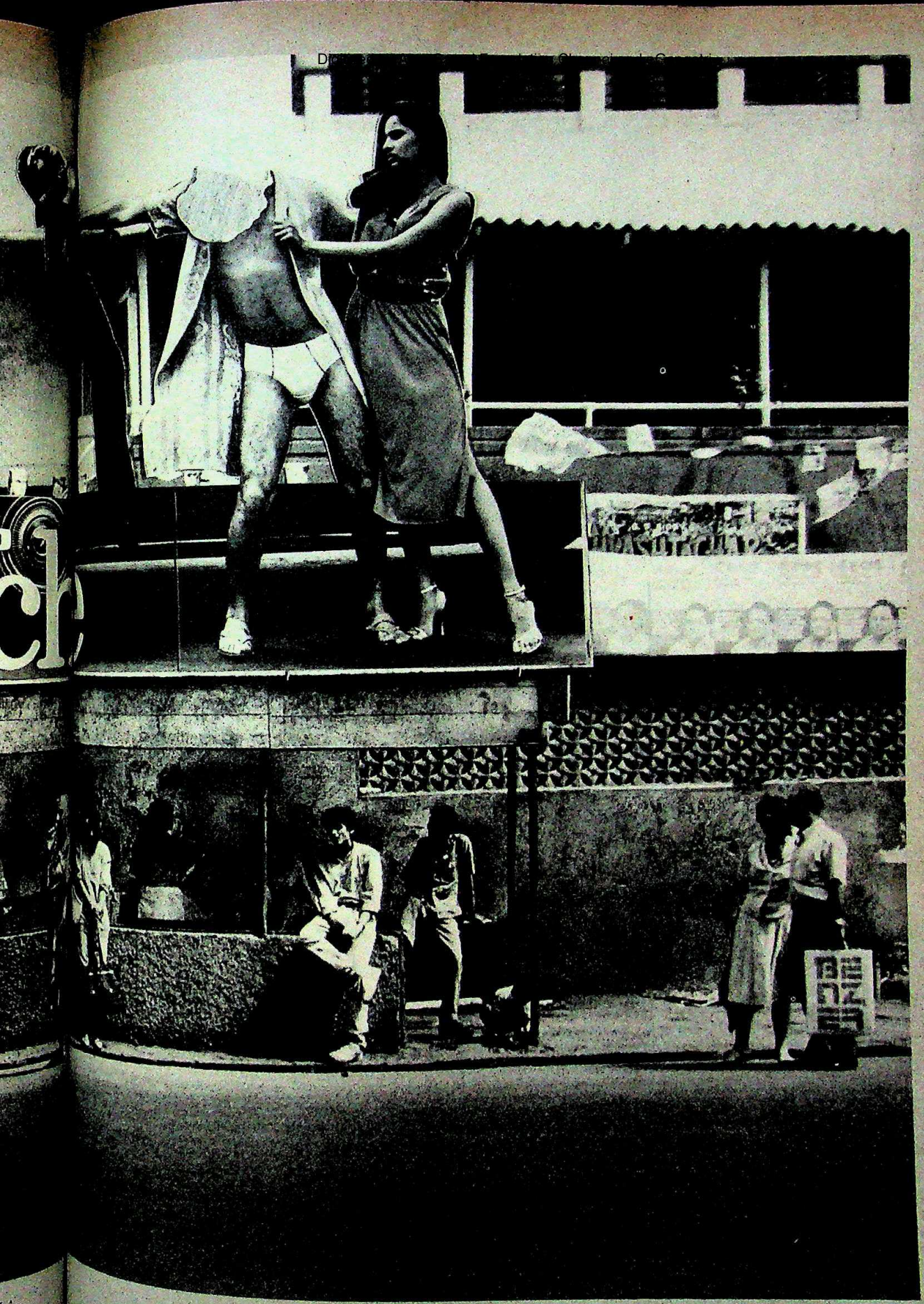
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Avenues:HH:1 1 5.90



Hoarding contractor questioned for creating a headless wonder for VIP Frenchie.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

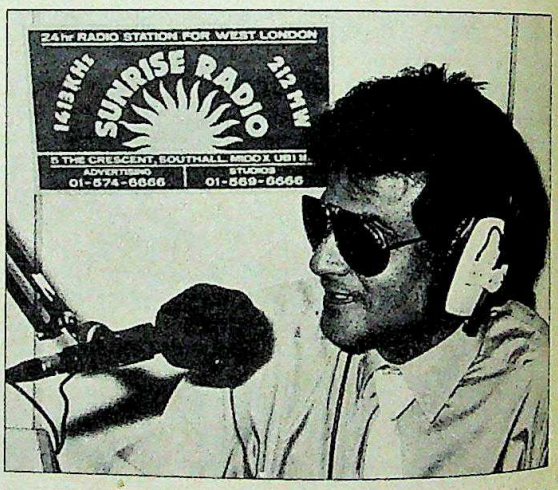
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Bradford City Radio. Lit employs a staff of 37 at Sunrise—based in north London's Hounslow area—and 26 in Bradford. For four years, he ran Sina, a pirate radio but he always dreamt of a legal Asian radio station. Says he: "I always felt that Asians must own radio stations and formulate their own programme policy."

Today Sunrise has an unofficial listenership of about 3 million and is the eleventh largest radio station in Britain. And according to Lit's own estimates it may earn more than £7,50,000 this year. But along with the success, it also has to deal with its share of subcontinental hotheads who feel that its programmes do not deal with socially relevant issues. Lit dismisses such charges by pointing out that he has held phone-in discussions on issues such as Muslim personal law.

Shafiq Rehman; (right) Jeetendra at a station

The ethnic radio stations provide the much needed link between the immigrants and the subcontinent.



That's not all. A couple of months ago, Sunrise's interview with Kashmiri separatist Amanullah Khan was put on hold for two months. Reason: the IBA directed that the Indian Government's views on the programme be taken to ensure its objectivity. Finally, the interview was carried along with comments by Indian High Commissioner Kuldip Nayar.

More recently a Sunrise reporter in Jordan faced the wrath of Indian officials for reporting that Pakistan had made better arrangements for its refugees in the Gulf than India had for its nationals. Another time a Sunrise news reader had to give in to the religious divide and change her introduction from 'Urdu News' to 'Hindustani news'.

It is to deal with such problems that the Coventry-based Harmony FM has adopted a definite policy. Said Suresh Joshi, Harmony's programme controller: "I will give a platform on my radio to various opinions. But I will not tolerate terrorism. There will be open discussion but it will be within the frame-work of the law of the land." Joshi, who has also had an interview with Amanullah Khan, is planning a programme on Sikh separatism soon.

That Harmony has been a runaway success is evident from the fact that it gets advertisements from such well known firms as Jaguar, British Airways and British Telecom. Moreover, it has a regular question-and-answer spot with a local doctor.

Vastly different from Sunrise and Harmony is the North London-based Radio Spectrum—it divides its time equally between programmes for Afro-Carribean, Arabic, Hindi, Urdu, Bengali, Chinese, Greek, Italian, Jewish and Spanish listeners. Described by broadcasters as Britain's first multicultural radio station, it has also been flaunted by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher as the fruit of her deregulation policies.

Supervising the mammoth project are seven directors—six of them used to run a pirate radio also called Spectrum—formed into a consortium of companies. Its capital of £ 1 million was also raised from the ethnic minorities themselves. Says Shafiq Rehman, a Bangladeshi who is one of two Asian directors at Spectrum: "We are genuinely ethnic because we are owned by all the major ethnic communities. Otherwise someone could play Hindi music all the time."

Whatever the tune, one thing is certain: ethnic radio stations have come to stay in Britain. And as their patronage grows, so does the fare they offer. Whether it's a programme of Hindi film songs or Bradford City Radio's discussion on Salman Rushdie, the ethnic radio stations are certainly making waves in Britain.

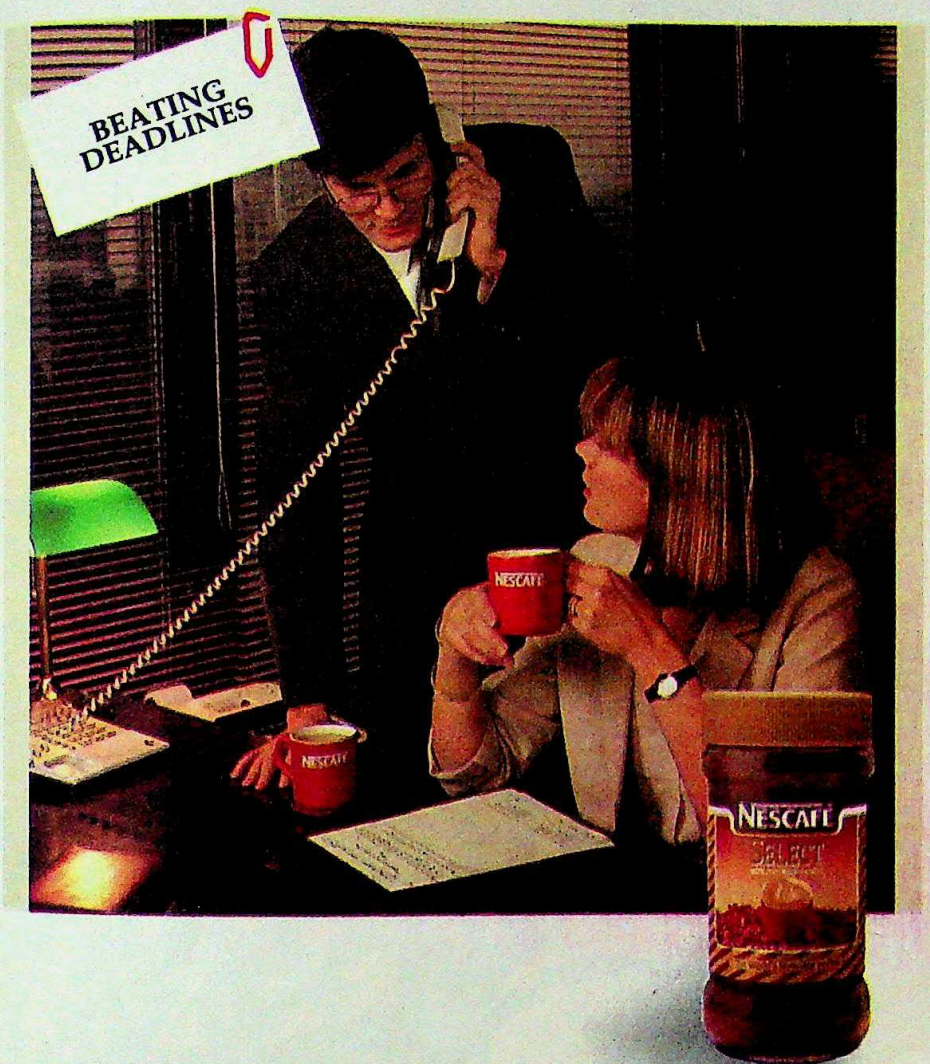
—DIPANKAR DE SARKAR in London

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

noth project
f them used
called Spec-
nsortium of
£ 1 million
hnic minor-
iq Rehman.
of two Asian
e are genu-
e owned by
nities. Oth-
Hindi mu-

ne thing is
tions have
nd as their
he fare they
gramme of
dford City
man Rush-
ons are cer-
itain.
AR in London



Think Smart with

NESCAFÉ®

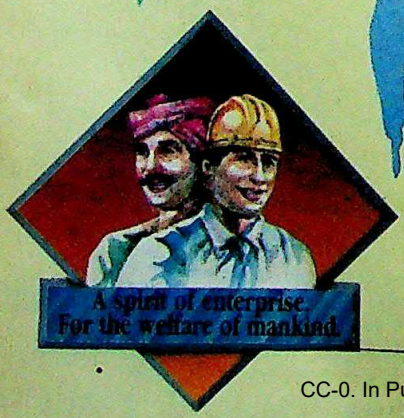
THE WORLD'S FAVOURITE COFFEE

TSA-D/NES/6390

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Every year in the heartland of Andhra Pradesh it's a harvest of smiles.



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

This is the saga of a company over four decades old. The Andhra Sugars. Established in August, 1947. A modest sugar factory that began production in 1952 with a capacity of 600 tonnes per day, now crushes 5,000 tonnes per day. A quantum leap in capacity and a definite indicator of growth.

Over 150 villages and hundreds of farmers have benefited from the astute vision of The Andhra Sugars. Seeds, manure, pesticides and other technical inputs are provided and better cultivation methods imparted. The result - a bumper crop of sugarcane, year after year. And continuing economic stability for the farmers. Reflected in the smiles that greet each harvest.

The first in the country to introduce the diffusion system in sugar production, The Andhra Sugars has collaborated with a Belgian firm to manufacture sugarcane diffusers and has already supplied them to three plants in India. As part of a logical expansion and diversification plan, a distillery was set up in 1962 to produce industrial alcohol from molasses - a renewable raw material. Acetic acid, acetic anhydride, ethyl acetate, produced at the factory, find wide application in pharmaceuticals, textiles,paints and a host of other industries.

Identifying the need for fertilizer, a superphosphate plant was set up in 1960, with a capacity of 100 tonnes per day. Apart from fertilizer, sulphuric acid, caustic soda, caustic potash, chlorine, hydrochloric acid, chlorosulphonic acid and alum are produced at the inorganic chemicals complex at Kovvur.

Yet another sterling enterprise of The Andhra Sugars, is the Aspirin plant, contributing a major share to the annual production of Aspirin in the country.

The story of The Andhra Sugars has been one of planned growth and diversification. Soon, The Andhra Sugars will be diversifying into oils, soaps and petrochemicals. Now, this multi-crore conglomerate looks towards its golden jubilee year with keen anticipation and a renewed sense of commitment to industry. And progress.

THE ANDHRA SUGARS LTD. TANUKU

THE ANDHRA SUGARS LTD.

Venkatarayapuram
Tanuku (West Godavari Dist.) Andhra Pradesh

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

La Opala stirs up some bake-and-serve specials

A wide range of baking dishes and casseroles as matching add ons to dinner sets.

A choice of delicate floral designs on pearly-white opal glass.

Perfectly safe for use in both regular and microwave ovens.

LA OPALA

OPAL GLASS OVENWARE

Tell crockery times have changed

The La Opala range is available in sets and single pieces. For more information, contact: La Opala Glass Pvt Ltd, 10th Floor, Chitrakoat, 230A AJC Bose Road, Calcutta 700 020; Phone 440414

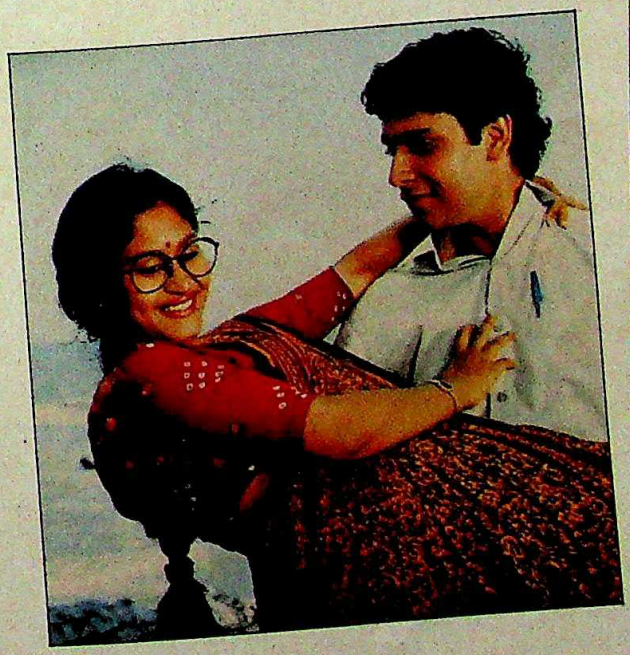
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

◆ WHAT was Whoopie Goldberg doing on Doordarshan? And on prime time news at that! The American actress (frizzed ringlets and swing-low voice *et al*) who shot into fame with the *The Colour Purple* and actor Martin Sheen were shown while voicing in for an animation film on the same weekend that the Gulf looked all set to explode, as starving and stranded Indians there came under sharper focus, the anti-reservation battles continued to rage on unabated, and V.P. Singh came out fighting from under the temporary siege of his partners on both the left and right. Obviously, the DD men do not know how to fill up the 30 minutes of the recently-extended weekend news bulletins and are now grabbing any footage going—and going cheap.

◆ THE Mirza brothers strike yet again. The directors ever in search of a new *adda* have now moved in under the Big Top with their vast repertoire of actors. First it was the local street corner with the popular *Nukkad*, followed by a small town railway station in *Intezzar*, Bombay's dream machine in *Manoranjan*, and now the circus in *Big Top*. Aziz Mirza, Kundan Shah and two other directors call the shots in the forthcoming serial which is all about a foreign-returned chartered accountant who reluctantly takes over the running of his father's circus. Sharouque Khan, who became the heart throb of the teeny-boppers in *Fauji*, plays the circus-owner. Well, if the people ask for bread—and there is not even cake—you can always whip up a circus.

Nalini and Sashi in *Khula Manch*: change of cast

The Mirza brothers' troupe: whipping up a circus



Haldar, Pal in *Hamari Shadi*: Doordarshan's love offerings

◆ BARELY had the Prasar Bharati bill been whisked through Parliament that DD dropped HTV like a hot brick from *Khula Manch*—a soap opera which is really being enacted off screen with Information and Broadcasting Minister P. Upendra, as the only constant member in a changing cast. Now it's Sashi Kumar and Nalini Singh with PTI-TV sharing the reins with DD. Kumar's questions are as hard-edged as Karan Thapar's, though tempered with a smile that covers the harshest of interrogation. But the minister this time proved a damp squib. M.S. Gurupadaswamy, minister of petroleum and chemicals, wouldn't have blinked had it been the inquisition. Arun Nehru faces the firing line next time and the big question is whether the guns of Bofors be fired. PTI-TV wants to go live but the game first involves staying alive. Meanwhile Upendra has promised *Indradhanush*, a sort of India This Week inspired by *The World This Week* and done by the DD boys themselves. But it's had trouble taking off. Let's hope it's not just hot air.

◆ DD is finally getting to be a movie moghul: nearly a dozen feature films made by well-known directors for television are already in the can. Some are sweet love stories like Basu Chatterjee's *Hamari Shadi*, a comedy about young lovers (Indrani Haldar and Ajit Pal) trying to elope—babes in an urban jungle peopled by greedy lawyers (Anjan Srivastav is marvellous). Others include a musical romance by Amol Palekar and the award-winning film *Bagh Bahadur* by Buddhadev Dasgupta.

—MADHU JAIN

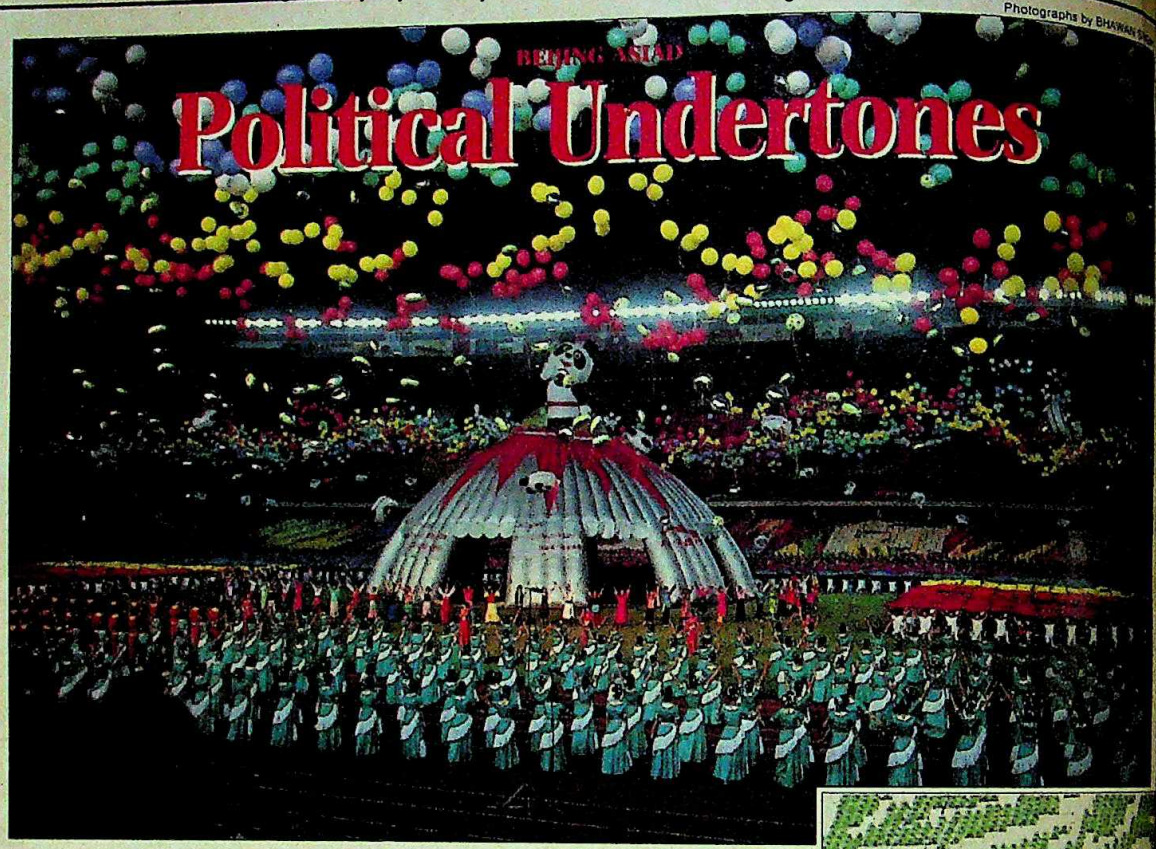
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Photographs by BHAWAN SINGH

BEIJING ASIAD

Political Undertones



THE colour cards said it all. As hundreds of gaily dressed drummers strode into the Beijing Workers Stadium the entire stand—filled with school students flashing colour cards—took the hues of the picture postcard Tiananmen Square gate. The drums and the gongs echoed the message the Chinese leadership wanted to convey to the world—they were in command, putting the embarrassment of Tiananmen behind them, and flaunting their renewed confidence before thousands from the world media who had descended on Beijing.

For 18 long months the Chinese leadership had waited for this moment. It is not as if Tiananmen had made China an international pariah. The multinational corporations had returned slowly. No Asian country boycotted the Games despite initial suggestions that many would do so. But now, just one incident of slogan shouting, a mere show of a dissident flag in the stadium could have spoilt the party and they were not going to let it happen. The announcement on the public address system was chillingly clear: the public security bureau had banned activities prejudicial to public order including bringing animals to the stadia, taking liberties with women, shouting slogans, blocking passages, jeering or creating strange noises. It was clear that no Chinese at the stadia was likely to gather the courage to shout anything more inflammatory than the regulation *Zhungguo dui, jia you* meaning, literally, "Chinese team, pour the petrol".

True to form, the Chinese competitors, weightlifters, cyclists, gymnasts, and swimmers set the stadia ablaze. The Chinese supremacy over Asian sport was demonstrated by the way their competitors swept golds in the first thirteen finals letting the Japanese break the spell finally in the swimming pool. International experts in Beijing were also taking note of the fact that in the pool as well as on the track and elsewhere Asian records were coming closer to world levels.

The Chinese, however, made it clear that for them the medals are more like the icing on the cake, the real prize being international prestige and acknowledgement of their organising abilities. Beijing is bidding for the Olympics in the year 2000 and the 11th Asiad is a dress rehearsal as well as a demonstration of the city's infrastructure and organising abilities. And the Chinese have left no stone unturned.

A whole new township has come up on the outskirts of Beijing with new hotels, recreation centres, shopping halls and athletes' village. The self-contained city with its wide avenues, freeways, parks and subway crossings is meant to be a showpiece as well as to keep the visitors away from the bustle of downtown Beijing. The approach to the new township also reflects *perestroika* Chinese style. Most of the residences

A riot of colour at the opening ceremony (top); the Iranian contingent

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Lotus dancers (top); and a display of martial arts

ldings, including the athletes' vil- ge have been built with money from verseas (non-resident) Chinese, who allowed to sell or rent out apart- nts to foreign multinational compa- es and their executives after the mes. The hotels are joint ventures th business groups in Hong Kong, rea or Singapore and are expected to ch in on the anticipated tourist boom er the Asiad. As a western diplomat plains, the Asiad is not merely meant demonstrate that the Chinese leader- ip is in control. It is also to tell the orld that everything is normal in China that the tourist traffic, which thinned er May 1989, can pick up again.

THE Chinese have gone to absurd lengths to present a cleaner, brighter image of their country. ong all the streets leading to Asiad enues, houses have been given a fresh at of paint. People have been ordered put flowerpots on their parapets. re than a lakh of 'unauthorised' ijing residents have been banished to e countryside. Two-wheelers have en banned. Only selected, labelled xis are authorised to serve Asiad ests: their drivers wear brand-new n-striped suits and ties. Thousands of udents have been given crash courses English and employed at hotels, com- ition venues and recreation centres.

Yet, beneath the veneer of gaiety is a rtain feeling of sullenness. Missing is e mood of euphoria at Seoul witnessed om 1986 to 1988 as it aduated from Asiad full summer Olym- s status. Missing so is the boisterous- ss of victory at the mpetition venues. e reason, perhaps, is ere are very few ket-paying specta- rs. The ordinary Chi- se has kept aloof m the Games. He is o scared. No one lks about Tian- men; people turn their heads away enever it is mentioned.

The Chinese message is that the leadership is in command and that for them the dollar has no ideological colour.

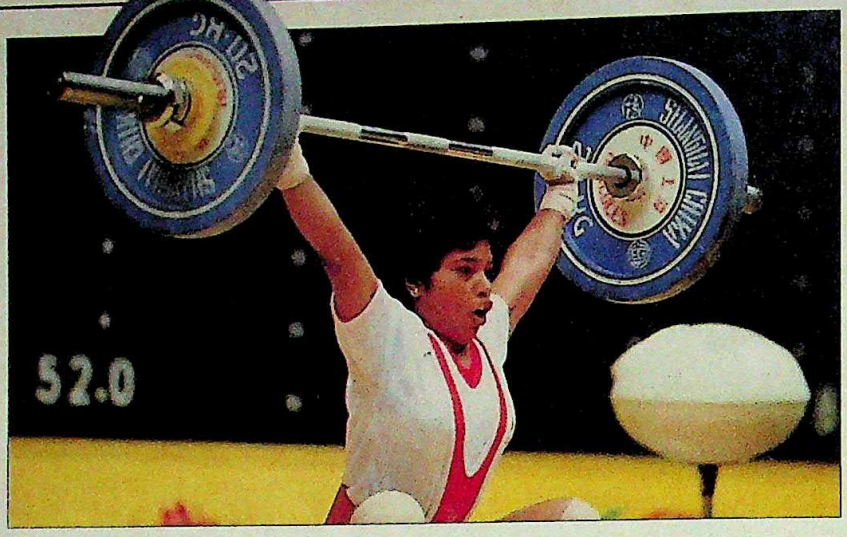
Veteran diplomats say the Chinese essage has two sides to it—economic d political. Politically, they are say- g they are in control. To the interna- nal business world they are saying t in their scheme of things, the dollar s no ideological colour. It is not prising then that though the Chinese not even have diplomatic relations th South Korea most of the sponsor- ships at the Games come from corpora- tions like Samsung, Gold Star and Kolon. South Korea has also contributed substan- tially in terms of expertise and resources to the Games. Most visibly, they have donated more than a thousand vansto the local police.

With the whole scenario so heavily loaded with politics it is no surprise that there is a substantial diplomatic underside to the games. The Chinese failed to get Iraq included but did manage to control the damage following its exclusion. North and South Koreans, competing in a major meet for the first time since the 1982 Delhi Asiad, are believed to be holding talks, with Chinese mediation, on fielding a joint contingent at the Barcelona Olympiad. This, they feel, will be a precursor to their ultimate reunion.

Diplomacy was on elsewhere too and this time, for once, Indians were leading the pack. Minister of State for Sport Bhakta Charan Das, his ministry's high profile Secretary S. Varadarajan and other key officials, accompanied by Indian Ambassador in Beijing C.V. Ranganathan sought an audience with Juan Antonio Samaranch, chairman of the International Olympic Association (IOA). The issue was the "removal of injustice" done to the V.C. Shukla group by the IOA under pressure from the two venerable Indians who happen to be members of the world's apex sports organisation—Ashwini Kumar and Raja Bhalindra Singh—and who hold positions in the IOA hierarchy far out of proportion with the kind of presence India commands in the world of sport.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



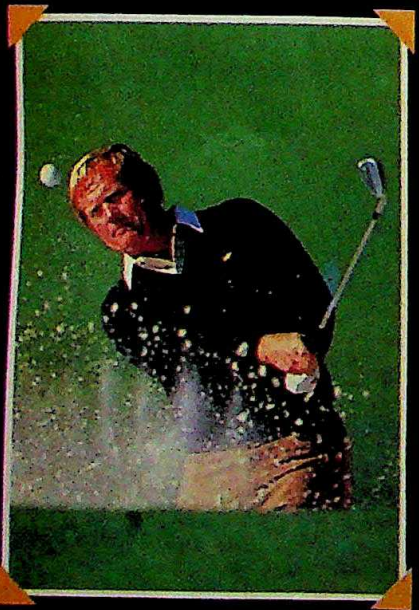
Bronze medallists Chhaya Adak (left) and Kunjarani Devi (right); India vs China kabaddi match (centre)

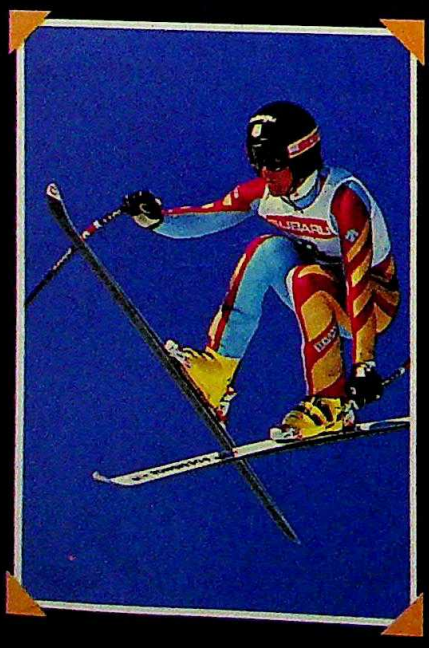
The two influenced the IOA to reject the Shukla group's claim to be the real Indian Olympic Association. But the Indian diplomatic team had as much success with Samaranch as Indian cyclists had in the velodrome.

While Shukla gloated self-destructively at the humiliation of Indian sport, worthies on the other side of the Indian Olympic Association goal were adding to it, making India the laughing stock among Chinese organisers and international media. B.S. Adityan and his group, whom Shukla has been trying to oust from the Indian Olympic Association, managed to get the Olympic Council of Asia's (OCA) recognition and hence grabbed the most valued passes for the games for themselves and their guests. Shukla and gang managed to stay on as they had taken the precaution of getting themselves listed on the seven-member Indian Government delegation as well.

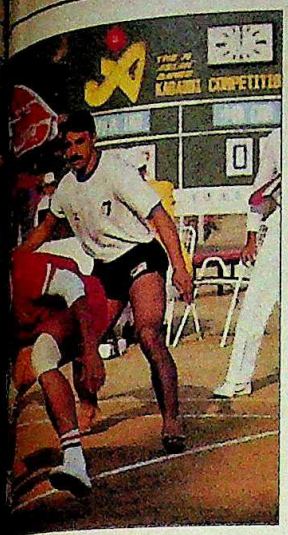
But the real action came, perhaps fittingly, in the kabaddi ground where Indian lads were showing their class in their traditional sport to the Chinese. One of Adityan's factotums was going around the press area handing out sealed Hotel Beijing envelopes to newsmen "With best compliments from Mr Adityan" and with the request not to

NOW FOR YOUR VERY OWN LIBRARY, SPORTS AT I





Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



nhaya Adak (left
i (right); India v
natch (centre)

ddi ground where
wing their class
rt to the Chinese
totums was going
rea handing out
envelopes to new
pliments from M
he request not to

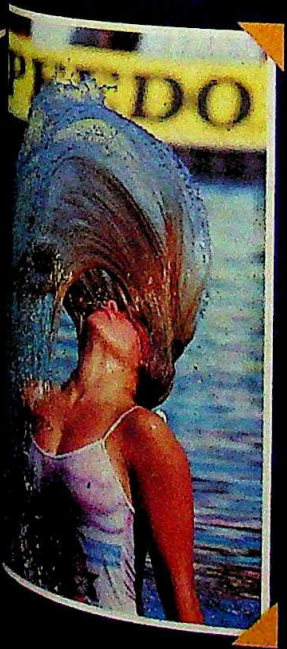
ven them for some time. One impatient
rewsman did open the envelope and
as shocked to find two crisp $100 bills.
ouraged, he returned the money and
mplained to the chef de mission. Later,
aiyan's factotum approached the
urnalist and pleaded that he had been
ven the envelope containing the cash
mistake instead of the intended invi-
tion card. He took the money back but
ever gave the intended invitation card
the journalist.

With all this action coming from the non-playing part of the contingent it was no surprise that the players' morale was at rock bottom. "With all these politicians and officials providing so much action why do you people even need to come and talk to us?" asked one athlete cynically. But the officials were unfazed. Perhaps giving an indication of things to come, they continued to walk up the victory stands a lot more often than Indian athletes, to present medals and bouquets to the winners, hogging attention from television cameras.

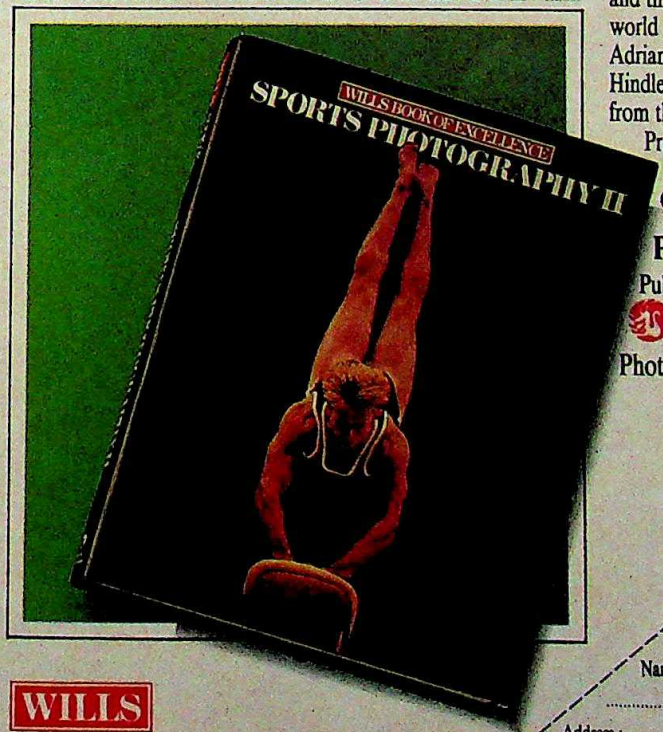
All this while the predominant feeling in the Indian camp—at least the playing faction of it—was to be done with it all, specially the humiliation. If they had any chance at all of taking away even a fraction of what China considers its moment of glory, it had already been snatched away by the politicians controlling their destinies.

—SHEKHAR GUPTA in Beijing

TS AT I
ORIAL BEST



WILLS BOOK OF EXCELLENCE
SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHY II



Wills brings together some of the greatest poets of the camera to recreate the thrills and spills and throbbing moments in the world of sports... Patrick Eagar, Adrian Murrell, Tommy Hindley and priceless gems from the archives of Allsport, Professional Sport and Sports Illustrated. Order your copy today.

Price Rs 175

Published and distributed by
Orient Longman

Photo Editor : Raghu Rai

Please mail ___ copy/ copies of Wills Book of Excellence : Sports Photography II, by V.P.P. to

Name : .....

Address : .....

Mail this Coupon to Orient Longman Ltd 3-6-272 Himayatnagar

WILLS
Promoting excellence in sport

TA 4136

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

At DLF, you can make your sun shine from the east or the west.

DLF

nonymous wi
the same pe

Just a 1(
tab Minar, D
ties have al
merfields S
mercial com
s, schools,
ded soon.

For the
ies. Regardl
ucky, there's
ere's a choice
s that you c
ments in th
DLF Qutab E

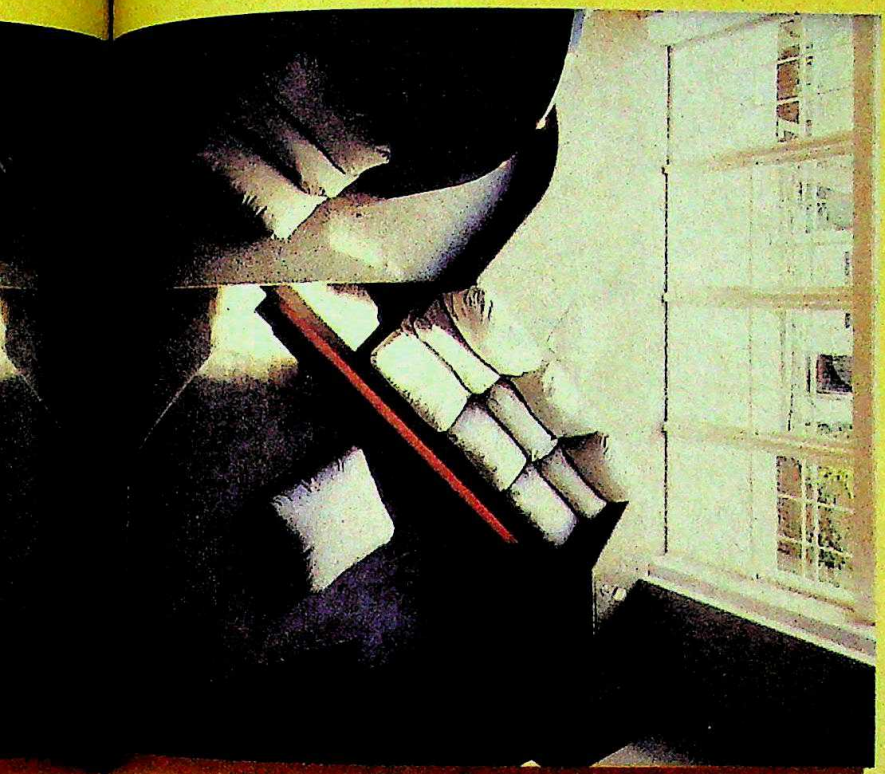
DLF

Maadhyam

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

VILLAS / TOWN HOUSES / APART

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



DLF Over the last four decades, these three letters have become synonymous with the best in real estate. Today, DLF Qutab Enclave, developed by the same people, has become the finest township south of Delhi.

Just a 10-minute drive from the International Airport and 15 minutes from the Qutab Minar, DLF Qutab Enclave is now humming with activity. Several hundred families have already moved in. The prestigious DLF Gymkhana Club is in full swing. Summerfields School is fully functional up to Class IV. The DLF Qutab Plaza commercial complex is ready. Security and bus services are in operation. And more shops, schools, shopping complexes, hospitals and health centres are planned to be added soon.

For the lucky owners of property in DLF Qutab Enclave, the sun always shines. Regardless of which way their houses face. And for those who haven't been lucky, there's now another chance to own prime property in DLF Qutab Enclave. There's a choice of ground and first floor duplex town houses, independent designer flats that you can buy in modules, and elegantly-designed 2 and 3 bedroom apartments in the DLF Silver Oaks Complex. So, if you want the sun to shine on you in DLF Qutab Enclave, make sure you don't miss out this time.

DLF UNIVERSAL LIMITED

1-E, Jhandewalan Extension, New Delhi-110055
Phones: 512484, 512155. Telex: 31-66885 DLF IN
Fax: 731706

DLF Qutab Enclave It's coming together perfectly.

FARMLANDS / SHOPS / OFFICES

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

The look is classic, sophisticated, debonair, suave — any one or a of these adjectives fit the CD shirt with the cut-away collar — CD 'Touch of Class'.

CD

The Symbol of the best Shirts in India

Available only at:

Charagh D

64/81, Wodehouse Road, Colaba, Bo

NOWHERE ELS

There are no branches or dealers & sub

No agents or representatives appoint

AMOL BOSE ADVTG 11790

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

BLOOD BANKS

Transfusion Trauma

Private banks are repositories of lethal diseases

SHE was only three days old when she developed hyperbilirubinemia—or an acute case of jaundice. The doctor said that she needed an urgent exchange blood transfusion. Like sand in an hourglass, the child was running out of time. Tara Chand, who works in a government dispensary, began his hunt for blood at 1 in the afternoon. By midnight, he had already spent Rs 450 on scooter fares as he desperately searched all over Delhi. Finally, he found a private blood bank that sold him two packets of blood for Rs 720—that he thought would save his little daughter's life.

A few days later, he was told that his child had contracted AIDS, a disease Tara Chand did not quite comprehend. Over the next month, his cramped little quarter in Sarai Rohalla became a celebrity area, visited by journalists, doctors from Bombay and even a Doordarshan team. In the panic and confusion Tara Chand and his wife simply forgot to give their daughter a name. Now, three months old, she is still only called Baby.

Anything AIDS touches turns to news. The first test done on Baby showed HIV positive. A second test showed HIV negative. Perhaps, she doesn't have AIDS after all. But the frightening thing is that she could so easily have got it.

Blood: does it give life or does it take it? Hepatitis, malaria, syphilis and now AIDS—buying blood from outside is like playing Russian roulette. Last month a frightening study commissioned by the Health Ministry, that was released to a select group of doctors, stated that over 70 per cent of the blood from professional donors is not properly tested. Worse, 85 per cent of it is not tested for the AIDS virus at all.

The study was initiated after disturbing Indian Council Medical Research (ICMR) findings that one out of every four cases of AIDS screened was from professional blood donors who keep the coffers of private blood banks flowing. "Giving infected blood is the most efficient way of transmitting AIDS," said Dr S.P. Tripathy, additional director-general of the ICMR.

In Delhi, 43 per cent of the blood demand every year is met by these banks, in Calcutta, 55 per cent. Worse, according to the study, the demand for blood is expected to increase three times in the next five years. This will only increase the dependence on commercial blood banks. Fear trickles down the spine every time there is an accident, emergency or a child is born with chronic dependence on blood as is the case with haemophiliacs and thalassaemics. The truth is: first, there is little blood; second, the quality of most of it is suspect.

In 1986, a study found 70 per cent of thalassaemic children (who need blood transfusions every 15 days) had tested positive for hepatitis B. That year there was no HIV among blood donors in Bombay. Said Dr I.S. Gilada of the Indian Health Organisation: "In 1990, it shot up between 5 and 15 per cent."

In another recent study in a Bombay hospital, out of 1,000-odd thalassaemic children screened, 11 were found to be HIV positive, innocent victims of AIDS. "As more and more sensitive techniques are coming in, more children are being found HIV positive," said Dr A.P. Dubey, associate professor in Paediatrics at Maulana Azad Medical College in New Delhi.

Still another study conducted on 5,000 replacement donors by Dr V.K. Sharma, associate professor in Microbiology at Maulana Azad, found that seven tested HIV positive: one was from a government blood bank and six were from commercial banks.

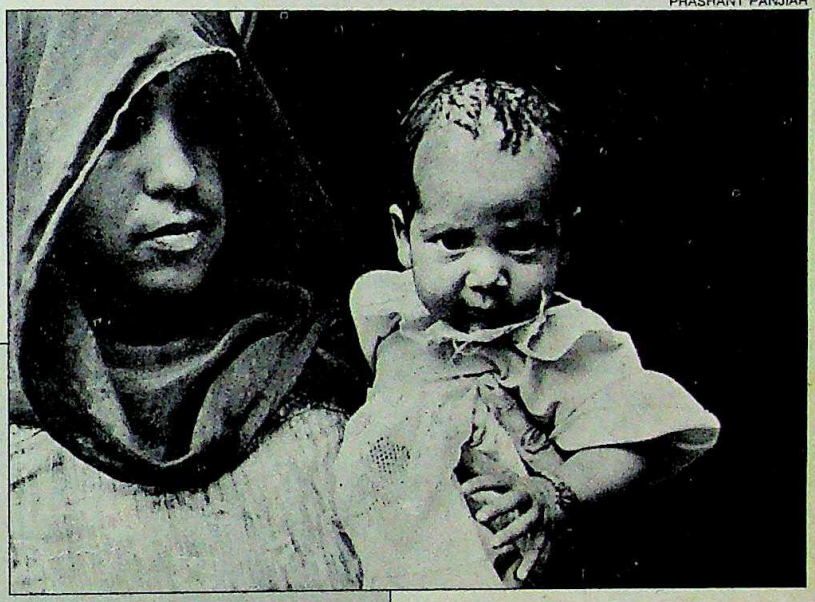
At the international AIDS conference held in June 1990 at San Francisco, experts predicted India as a major disaster area. The eye of the disease was definitely shifting from the West to the East.

"AIDS is spreading silently, quickly," said Dr Monica Juneja of Maulana Azad, who is studying AIDS contracted through repeated blood transfusions. "We're in the stage America was in in the early '80s." That is the way the AIDS epidemic breaks: slowly and then suddenly.

Doctors agree that India's main problem is that people just will not donate their own blood, not even for their close relatives. "Yesterday a man needed blood, and six real brothers ran away," said Dr P. Choudhary, a paediatrician. Adds he: "A mother will not donate blood for her child. Nor will she allow the father to donate saying he will become weak and unable to earn money." Superstitions range from fear of weakness to loss of libido.

Dr M.L. Gupta of the Red Cross—

PRASHANT PANJIAR



Baby: frighteningly vulnerable

Buying blood is like playing Russian roulette—you could get syphilis or AIDS.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

the only "safe" place to get blood—compares Delhi to Tokyo, two cities with an almost similar population. Tokyo collects 14 lakh units from voluntary donors every year: Delhi collects 35,000 units. "In 1965 one case of jaundice shook the conscience of Japan so much that there is no professional donor there anymore," says Gupta.

This shortfall—1.5 million units as against a requirement of 4 million—leads to the inhumane trade of buying and selling of blood. A world of donors, *dalals* and desperation. Sickly, poor men willing to knock down their price for a shop that will buy their blood without asking questions. According to the Health Ministry study a large part of the donors are "alcoholics or drug abusers, have indiscriminate sexual habits, are a high risk group for hepatitis B and AIDS, and are unfit to donate blood". Often, an HIV positive donor who is turned away at one blood bank will simply go to another—or another. "Those who have rare blood groups—RH negative—can make quite a good living," said Dr B.M.S. Bedi of Kalavati Saran Hospital.

Moreover, testing facilities are suspect, when tests are done at all. Said Gupta: "AIDS testing on all blood is just not possible. And where money is involved, there are many temptations not to throw away blood." The issue of AIDS has thrown everything into a mess: the hide and seek nature of the disease can test negative on a blood sample and then appear positive in a patient. Doctors confess that many of the Elisa testing kits that were imported into the country were defective: they often erred, although they erred on the side of positivity. Which means even if you are clean, you could test AIDS positive. So, the rule of thumb is to go in for a second Elisa test. If that too is positive, then the Western Blot. And if that is positive, you are doomed. However, to get a Western Blot test done at all depends on the whims of the ICMR testing centres.

To confound confusion further a recent ICMR directive states that when blood is found HIV positive it is to be thrown away—but, strangely, the donor is not to be told that he has AIDS.

Apart from lax testing, many private blood banks also have unhygienic conditions: poor freezing facilities, non-disposable needles and untrained medical personnel (one had a CTBH degree—or Compounder in Bombay Hospital for three years). The disease can hide in syringes, blood bags, I-V units, blood products. Even the way blood and disposable equipment is got rid of is very important. "In the West, the policy is wear and tear, here it is wash and wear," says Gilada.

PRIVATE blood banks thrive on the assumption that blood is in short supply—and that in an emergency, there is no time to ask questions. Says Dr Tripathy of ICMR: "It is a seller's market. That is the problem." Even as a unit of infected blood is being pumped into a sick child, somewhere the carrier of the HIV virus is probably donating his blood again—for as little as Rs 65.

Many private banks have poor testing facilities and untrained staff.

And there is no legal remedy. Few people in India opt for long, legal suits. One doctor says if the patient gets AIDS or hepatitis, the bank and clinician must be held responsible. Another doctor feels that an HIV positive donor must be tattooed on the forehead. Said Dr A.N. Malviya, who heads the AIDS centre at All India Institute of Medical Sciences: "Culpability is based on whether a blood bank is considered a shop—or a social service?"

Ironically, while you buy bad blood, you get the good one for free. "If everyone were to donate blood even once in a life time, we would completely meet our needs," said Dr Gupta of the Red Cross. He has to literally beg people to voluntarily donate blood. However, the flip side of the coin is when you need blood: you are only entitled to it if you have donated in the past. Or if some family member will donate blood in exchange for what they pick up. Says Gupta: "I have turned away ministers and chairmen of companies if they have never donated blood."

According to doctors, there are a few ways to circumvent the blood shortage. First, single bottle transfusions should be avoided since anybody who needs a single bottle of blood does not really need it. This is an unnecessary transfusion, usually to make money. Second, plasma expanders—a commercial chemical product—can often be used in place of blood. Third, autologous transfusions can be done for planned surgeries like a hysterectomy: here you can freeze your own blood in advance. Fourth, you can use blood from your own relatives or friends—keep a checklist of friends' blood groups. Fifth, never buy blood—even if it is checked for HIV, it may not have been checked for other viruses. It won't be quality blood at all.

If there is a shortage in the most basic of human needs—blood—then everybody is a shareholder in the attitude. Perhaps there is merit in the good doctor's plea: give blood today. You may need it tomorrow.

—SIMRAN BHARGAVA

PRAMOD PUSHKARNA

Queueing for blood: critical shortage

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

e blood even
would com-
aid Dr Gupta
literally beg
onate blood.
f the coin is
ou are only
e donated in
member will
ge for what
ota: "I have
nd chairmen
ve never do-

, there are a

cal shortage

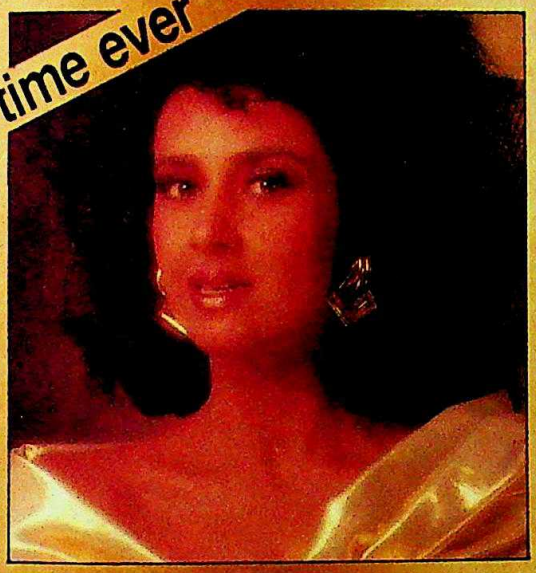
t the blood
ttle transfu-
nce anybody
of blood does
s an unnec-
lly to make
xpanders—a
roduct—can
blood. Third,
can be done
a hysterecto-
e your own
you can use
relatives or
t of friends'
buy blood—
v, it may not
er viruses. It
all.
in the most
blood—then
r in the atti-
it in the good
today. You

N BHARGAVA

BAGPIPER GOLD

PRESENTS A SONG AND DANCE EXTRAVAGANZA

THE SHARON SPECTACULAR



India's singing sensation live on stage in a series of show stoppers from her latest albums by Music India titled "Blow Your Mind" and "Jhoom Jawani".

Soon in your city

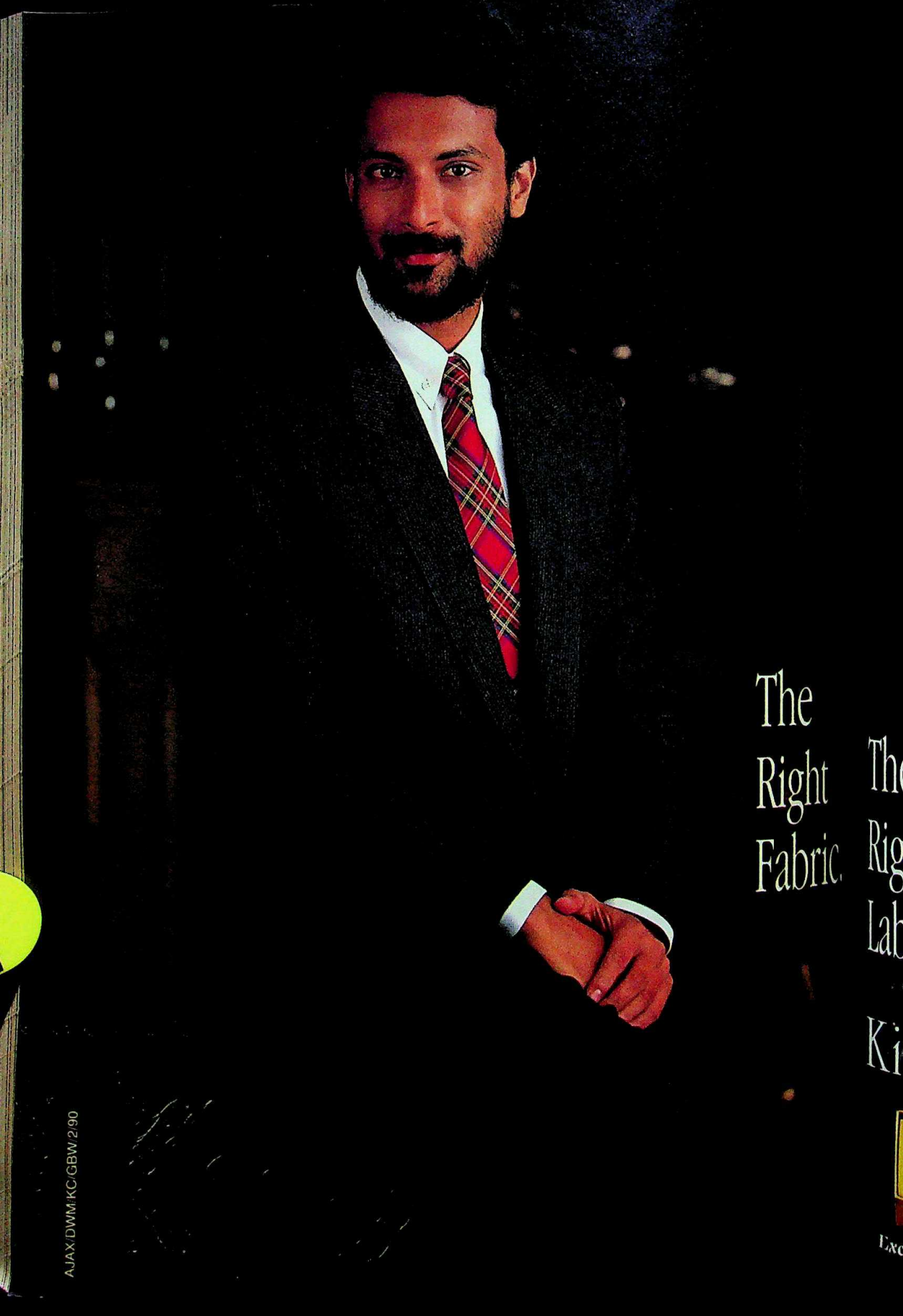
Delhi 8.9.90 • Madras 6.10.90
Lucknow 12.10.90 • Calcutta 21.10.90
Bombay 27.10.90

Directed by ALYQUE PADAMSEE
Dances specially choreographed by SHIAMAK DAVAR

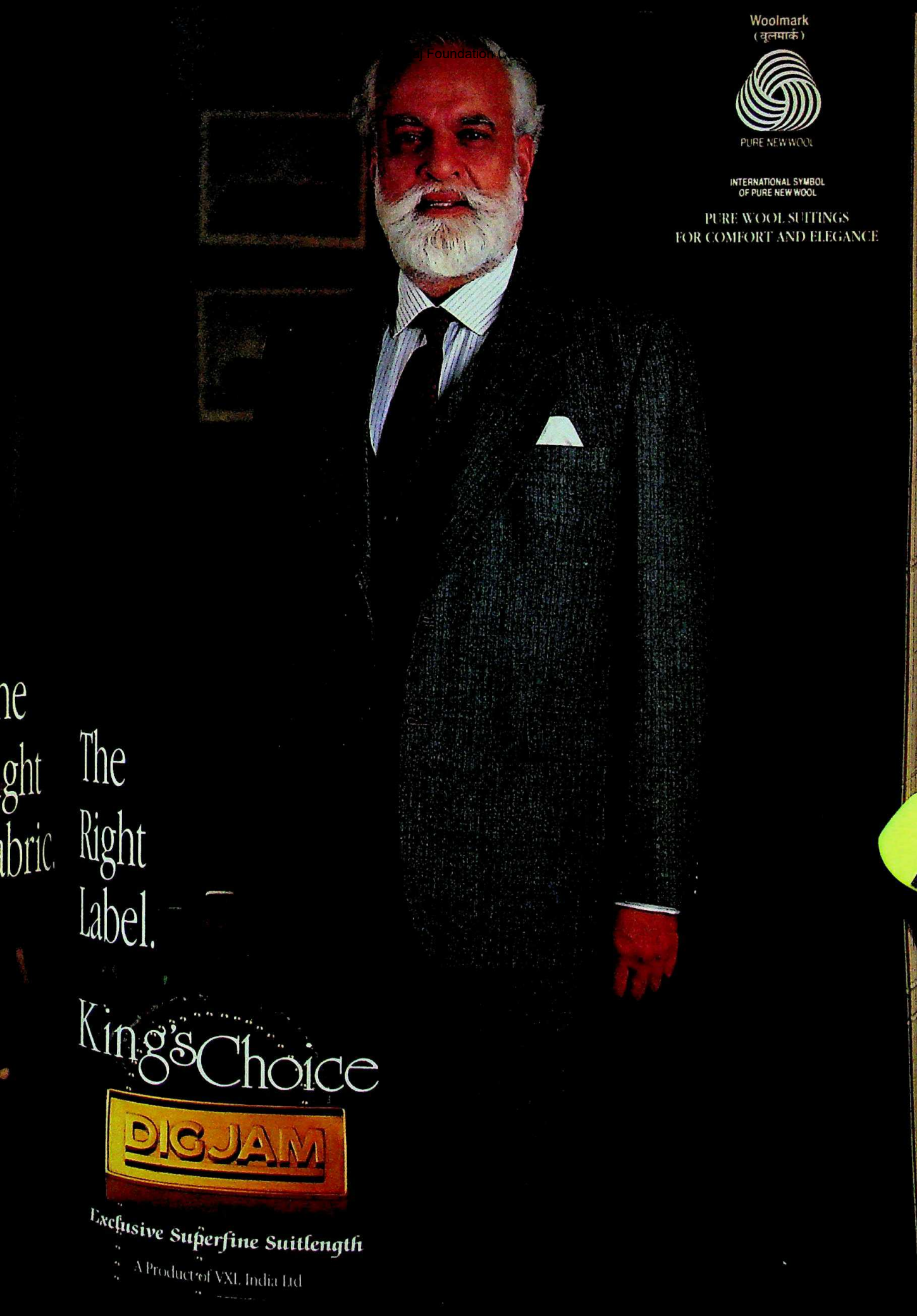
HERBERTSONS LIMITED

In association with
MIL MUSIC INDIA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar


The
Right
Fabric.
The
Rig
Lab
Ki
AJAX/DWM:KC/GBW/2/90

Foundation C



Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

An environment designed to increase:

• Sales in your Showroom, • Turnover in your Restaurant, • Productivity in your Office.

Interior Landscape. *Brigade Gardens is designed around an intensively landscaped courtyard. The two aerial walkways above offer scenic view-points as well.*

ARCHITECTURE BY: Zachariah & Thomas

LANDSCAPING BY: Black Rose

O W N E R S H I P

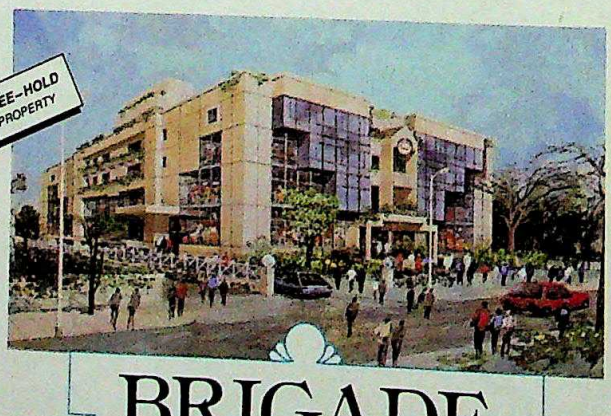
SHOWROOMS	OFFICES	RESTAURANT
CENTRALLY AIR-CONDITIONED 115 SFT to 1000 SFT	510 SFT to 5305 SFT	2215 SFT (+ OPEN-AIR SEATING)

A UNIQUE INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

And a location that's among the very best in Bangalore. A fashionable area so busy that space is already becoming scarce, with little scope for fresh development.

Brigade Gardens also offers: • For the first time in Bangalore, Central Air-conditioning for Showrooms. • Separate entrances, driveways and lifts for offices, showrooms and freight / services. • Spacious parking. • EPABX to every unit. • Superior specifications.

Construction in progress. Completion by: December 1991



Book now!

- *Introductory Discounts.*
- *Easy payment over 18 months.*

For more information, please contact:

PROMOTERS:
BRIGADE INVESTMENTS

PROPERTY DEVELOPERS
8th Floor, Brigade Towers,
Brigade Rd, Bangalore 560 025
Phone: 210784, 210786
Telex: 0845-8601 BRIN IN

BRIGADE GARDENS

CHURCH STREET, BANGALORE
Next to M.G. Rd – Brigade Rd

First Class Value. Business-like Prices.

RESOURCE / BG / 2C

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Misplaced Priorities

THOUGH newspapermen are not undertakers, yet there are some situations tailor-made for them. Imagine the potential of the Gulf crisis! About 1,70,000 Indians trapped in Kuwait, and 10,000 in Iraq as Iraqi troops marched into Kuwait. A western armada led by the US crowding into Gulf waters and Americans forming an air bridge to ferry troops and supplies to Saudi Arabia. The Arab states divided down the middle, with dramatic new alignments coming into being.

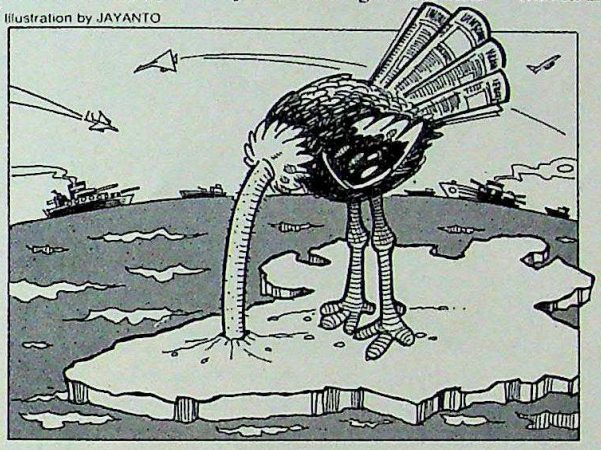
For India, the crisis had unwelcome consequences. Forty per cent of its oil imports cut off, thanks to UN sanctions. Pakistan rushing troops to Saudi Arabia, apparently to curry favour with the US. The region next door bristling with arms.

One would have imagined that those English language newspapers that could afford it would have sent strings of reporters to the region to be first with the story and to try to analyse what the cataclysm in the Gulf meant for India. Yet the heavyweights remained almost undisturbed in their somnolence. The entertainment provided by the National Front Government and the opposition parties kept the newspapers happy. The world—and expatriate Indians—could take care of themselves. And besides, there were the foreign newspapers, cheap at the price they charged for their syndication rights.

Talking of the English language newspapers, there were token gestures made to the Gulf crisis. *The Times of India*'s stringer in Nicosia, G.H. Jansen, went to Amman to write some highly opinionated pieces. The newspaper even sent a man to Amman from Delhi, who was content to remain in Jordan and go to the hell-hole of a refugee camp in the no man's land between Iraq and Jordan. Baghdad, swarming with western reporters, seemed uninviting to the Indian fraternity.

The Hindu's man in the region, F.J. Khergamvala, was inexplicably missing from the pages of the newspaper during the first fortnight of the crisis. When he did start writing, he got a trifle emotionally involved, devoting as much attention to giving tips to the relations of Indians trapped in Kuwait as he did to analysing the situation. The *Indian Express* man in Damascus, Harish Chandola, finally ventured as far as Amman. *The Statesman* was happy to rely on a stringer in Saudi Arabia, Ayalur Balakrishnan.

Illustration by JAYANTO



English language newspapers made no more than token gestures to the Gulf crisis. No reporter went to Baghdad.

Faced with a world-shaking event, the Indian press covered itself with glory for the second time. It had given a wide berth to the Tiananmen drama in Beijing, in terms of sending reporters. And now, with a story of even greater immediacy to India, it has chosen to make a few half-hearted gestures.

Since this pattern seems to be the norm, it is worthwhile trying to find out why. Why is it that a touring Indian cricket team has an army of Indian reporters in tow for weeks on end when newspapers fight shy of sending reporters to cover a major world crisis? In other words, is there a method in this madness?

Sporting events, it would seem, exercise an all-powerful influence on the minds of newspaper owners as on readers. And obviously, circulation managers have convinced newspaper owners that nothing sells a newspaper as much as good sports pages.

The reasons for the deficiencies of the English language press—the most prosperous and biggest of them—go deeper. In this information age, with more and more newspapers going over to modern printing technology, little effort is made to plan the editorial budgets in advance. The editor thus has little idea of the kind of resources he has at his command to send reporters abroad. Each assignment abroad must be singly cleared with newspaper proprietors, and in some of the bigger newspapers, the process of obtaining clearance can be a long-drawn process.

The tragedy is that even if the babu procedures in newspaper offices were to be speeded up and editors armed with the authority to send reporters abroad within a budget, there would be little to show for it. The amounts spent on what should be the most important aspect of any newspaper—gathering and analysing news—are so abysmal that they are laughable.

Indian newspapers can get away with it because they are all sailing in the same boat. The formula for success has already been evolved and it works, because readers do not have a better domestic product to compare it with. Once one newspaper started colour printing, others followed suit. Again, once one newspaper started a Saturday supplement, so did others.

Isn't it time then for one newspaper to give the lead in spending money on the most vital aspect of a newspaper—newsgathering? Others will then be forced to follow. Perhaps the willingness of magazines, including and particularly INDIA TODAY, to spend money to get their reporters around is one reason for their phenomenal success.

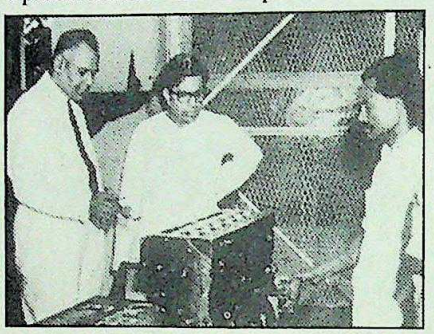
The magazine boom—we're in the second wave now—inspired newspapers to get away from their traditional drabness. Perhaps the magazines will help spread the subversive idea that spending money on gathering news, as opposed to newspaper establishments' decor, can pay.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Let's celebrate the man

When S. Anantharamakrishnan joined Simpsons as an employee, his English colleagues found his name too difficult to pronounce. And so they called him 'J'. Little did they know that 'J' would soon be implementing in India the alphabet of modern industrial production!



The story of Anantharamakrishnan will be a permanent tribute to Simpsons' ability to foster genius. He rose swiftly through the ranks to take over the company. A prophet of relevant and humane modernisation, he sought to unlock the treasures of the industrial age for the common good.

And to him, Simpsons was the key ... to an industrial structure that would help feed the needs of a nation discovering its future.

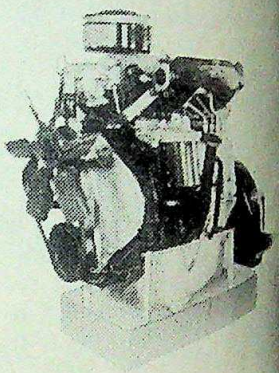
Simpsons today

From crafting horse-drawn carriages, to assembling motor vehicles, to manufacturing diesel engines, sought after for vehicular, agricultural, industrial and marine applications. That, in a nutshell, is the saga of Simpsons – from a company of artisans to a prime mover of industry.

Simpsons: foundation of an industrial powerhouse

A group of companies committed to enhancing the industrial stature of the nation. Pumping the lifeblood of a modern industrial economy. An industrial powerhouse.

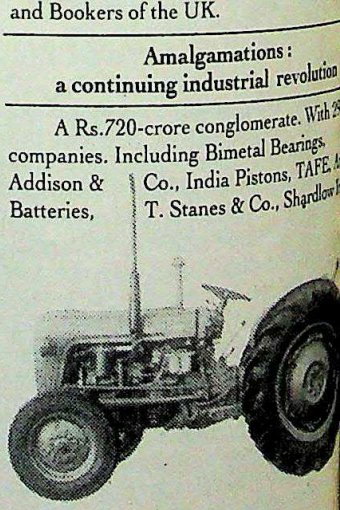
That was the ambition of industrialist Anantharamakrishnan and Amalgamations and Simpsons the ladder whose rungs took new heights. Using the solidity and financial strength built over a century to trigger an industrial chain reaction. Aided in this era of progress by collaborations with a roster of



renowned corporations from Europe, the US and Australia – Perkins, Massey Ferguson, T&N Group, United Engineering & Forging, Van Moppes, Clevite and Repco. A roster in recent times expanded to include Yuasa, NT, Nippon Oils & Fats of Japan, SAFT of France and Bookers of the UK.

Amalgamations: a continuing industrial revolution

A Rs.720-crore conglomerate. With 25 companies. Including Bimetal Bearings, Addison & Co., India Pistons, TAFE, Batteries, T. Stanes & Co., Shardlow



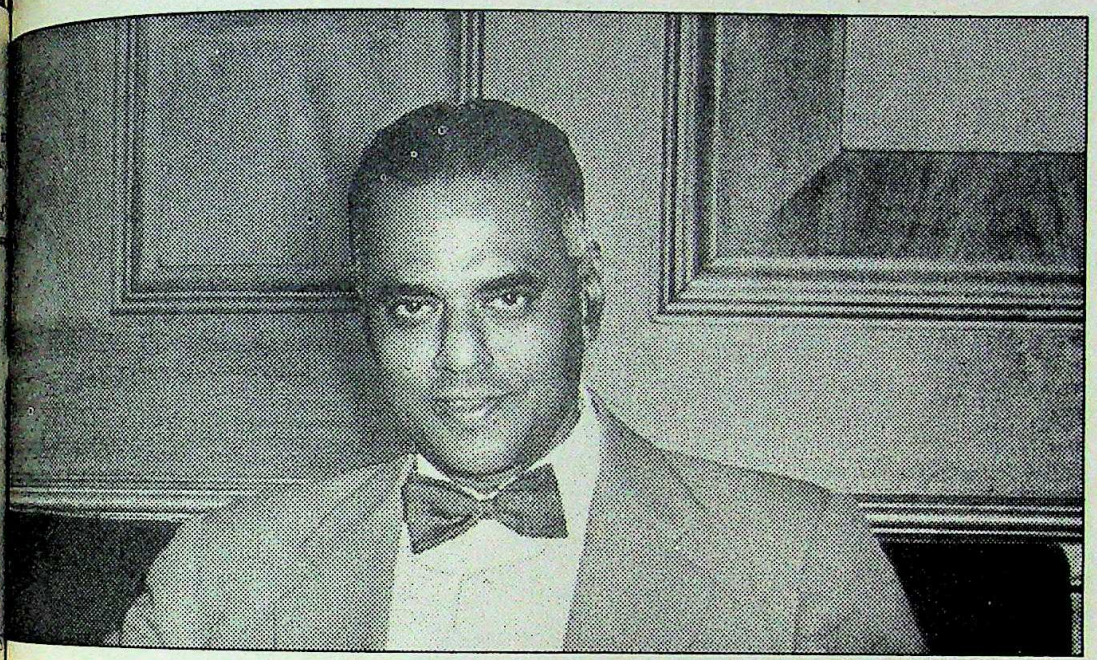
Simpson & Co. Ltd
Madras

AN AMALGAMATIONS GROUP MEMBER

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

who saw tomorrow yesterday.



S. Anantharamakrishnan (1905-1964)

mations Repco, Addison Paints & als, Indiapistons -Repco, L M Van es, Stanes Amalgamated Estates, Wallace ight, The United Nilgiri Tea Estates list goes on.

And a product portfolio ranging from diesel es, tractors, diamond tools and cutting s piston assemblies, crankshafts and products. And non-manufacturing ess ranging from clearing and forwarding, purchase/leasing and tyre retreading to distribution and tea estates.

Products exported to North America, ge, Australia and the USSR, years before rt promotion became a national imperative. A vision come true. And yet growing. For can something static be forged on a ic anvil?

To be a leader of industry is remarkable. be a leader of men ... that is a reward easurable in words.

AMALGAMATIONS CELEBRATES SIMPSONS 150 YEARS 1840-1990

The spirit of enduring enterprise

Rediffusion/AMG/90/184 M

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

CHIRANJEEVI

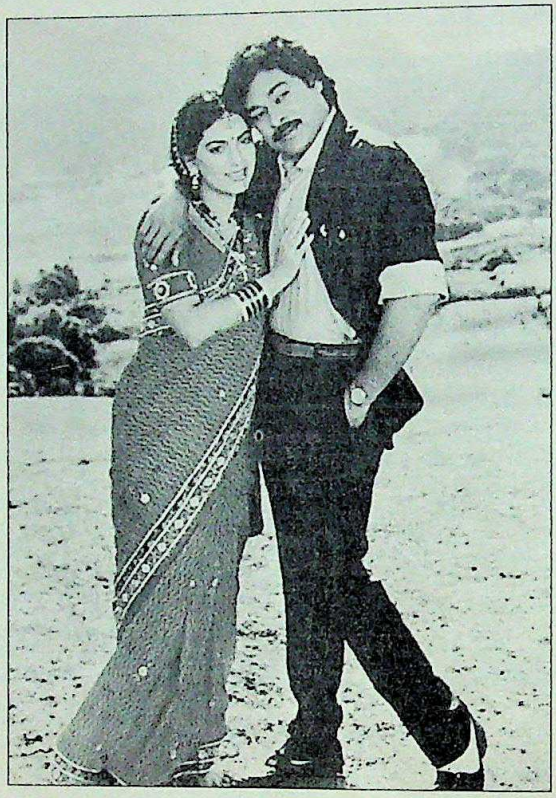
Macho Megastar

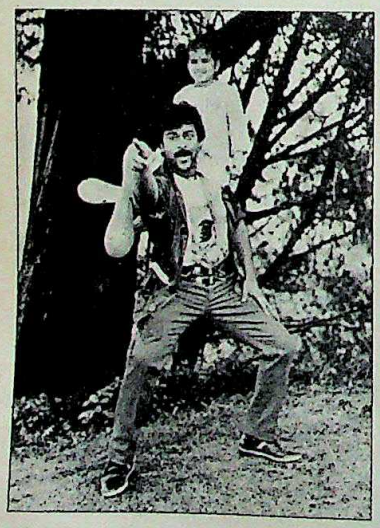
Telugu hero breaks into Hindi films

FEW in Andhra Pradesh know who Shivshankar Varaprasad is. Yet stop a man on the street and ask him who is the well-built star with sloping shoulders who stands akimbo defiantly in his films, and pat comes the reply: Chiranjeevi. Nor does it stop there. More often than not, the buff also strikes the characteristic pose of Telugu filmdom's megastar.

With his debut on the Hindi screen in his 109th film, Chiranjeevi has stuck another feather into his cap, which already sports seven recorded jubilee runs, and two films screened at festivals in Moscow.

Yet Chiranjeevi, 36, is not cast from a unique mould. He is the typical contemporary superstar, the 'action hero', who sings, dances and fights. At any given time of the day an estimated one lakh persons gape at the macho man battling the forces of evil. From a mere Rs 5,000 for *Punadirallu*, he has ridden the box-office to command an estimated Rs 30 lakh per film today—a price unmatched by any south Indian filmstar. Of course, Chiranjeevi's management, steered by his brother-in-law Allu Arvind, denies these figures.





Stills from *Pratibandh* (above); and *Jagadekaveerudu Athiloka Sundari*

His commercial success is largely a result of his commitment. Says veteran film director K. Vishwanath: "Rarely does an artiste submit himself totally to the role and to the director as Chiranjeevi does in all his films." However, not everybody is impressed by the megastar. Says script-writer and director Jandhyala: "Chiranjeevi is not in the mould of N.T. Rama Rao. He has less histrionic talent."

In a typical irony, the diverse roles he has played for accomplished directors like Balachander (*47 Rojulu*, *Rudraveena*), Vishwanath (*Subhalekha* and *Swayamkrushi*), Bapu (*Manavoori-pandavulu*), and Jandhyala (*Chantabby*) haven't helped him post his top hits at the box-office. For that Chiranjeevi has had to bank on the masala films, made by directors like B. Gopal (*State Rowdy*) and Raghavendra Rao (*Jagadekaveerudu Athiloka Sundari*). But here too, his professionalism has set him apart. He doesn't report late on the sets; he doesn't alter scripts; and he doesn't surround himself with sycophants.

But the road to fame hasn't been an easy one. When Chiranjeevi wanted to study at the film institute in Pune his father, Venkat Rao, stood in the way. But Chiranjeevi convinced his father that moving to Madras from Narsapur in Andhra Pradesh, where he had obtained a Commerce degree, would help him train better to be an accountant. There, while he enrolled for the course, he also began learning dance and dialogue delivery; and Venkat Rao had to relent when his son got a break.

In the beginning, Chiranjeevi made little impact as he got only anti-hero roles. But as he found the 'action-hero' slot, he was soon reeling off hits. Today his office sends at least 5,000 photographs to fans every month. And nearly 30,000 copies of *Chiranjeevi*—a journal that devotes itself to his life and work—at Rs 10 each are sold every month.

His career is looked after by professional managers, equipped with computers. Perhaps this is the reason why Chiranjeevi was among the top ten tax-paying film stars during 1988-89 and the only one from the south.

Meanwhile, Chiranjeevi keeps himself trim with regular weight training and jogging. Though he never works on more than three films at a time, his schedule is gruelling: 12 to 15 hours a day, six days a week. Sunday's he heads for Madras to spend time with wife Surekha and their three children. "Kids are a great source of relaxation," he says. His only other passion is cooking.

Last month, as Chiranjeevi announced to 30,000 cheering fans in Hyderabad's Lal Bahadur stadium his decision to move into Hindi films with *Pratibandh*, frenzied cries of "Chiranjeevi, megastar" rent the air, dwarfing the presence of Anil Kapoor and Amrish Puri. Says Chiranjeevi: "The Hindi film gives a special kind of national recognition." Then adds quickly: "But I will continue to make films mainly in Telugu."

That is an understandable resolve, for his Telugu fans are legion. Wherever he goes they mob him, giving him tags as outlandish as 'Cyclone Chiranjeevi'. And they may have missed a meal after the recent cyclone but they did not miss seeing his latest film.

—AMARNATH K. MENON

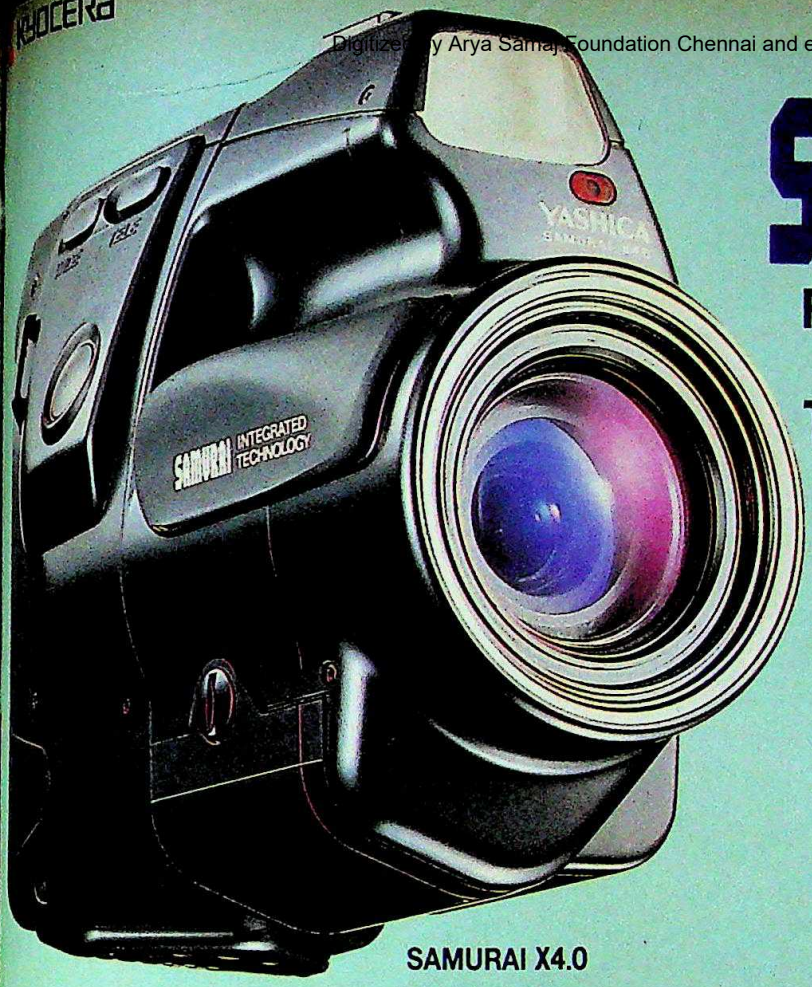
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

KYOCERA

YASHICA SAMURAI

FOUR FABULOUS MODELS. TAKE YOUR PICK.



SAMURAI X4.0

convinced
oving to Ma-
arsapur in
, where he
Commerce
lp him train
accountant.
enrolled for
also began
nd dialogue
kat Rao had
is son got a

ing, Chiran-
mpact as he
ro roles. But
action-hero'
n reeling off
fice sends at
tographs to
onth. And
copies of
ournal that
his life and
each are sold

looked after
managers,
computers.
the reason
was among
paying film
3-89 and the
he south.
Chiranjeevi
n with regu-
ng and jog-
never works
t a time, his
o 15 hours a
Sunday's he
d time with
ree children.
relaxation."
passion is

anjeevi an-
ring fans in
stadium his
di films with
of "Chiran-
ir, dwarfing
Kapoor and
njeevi: "The
kind of na-
Then adds
nue to make

able resolve,
gion. Wher-
, giving him
one Chiran-
ve missed a
one but they
test film.
TH K. MENON

Technology that beats the others 'singlehandedly'

Now there are four stylish versions of the extraordinary vertical Yashica Samurai.

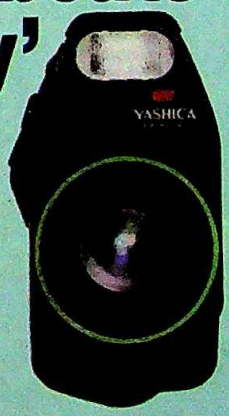
X3.0 which gives you a built-in 25-75mm power zoom.

The Z and ZL-Techno twins.

Only 460gms light and 108mm high.

Z is for right handed users and the remarkable ZL is the world's only camera made specially for left-handed users.

X4.0 with the advanced 25-100mm power zoom.



SAMURAI X3.0

SAMURAI Z

SAMURAI Z-L

See the Samurai range. Make your choice.

It's got to be

YASHICA

KYOCERA CORPORATION. Optical Equipment Division, 27-8, 6-chome Jingumae, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150, Japan
"YASHICA" is a trademark of KYOCERA CORPORATION.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ONE SOURCE YOU CAN DEPEND ON

ADD ANOTHER — CROMPTON TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Crompton Telecommunications is the single-source, single-vendor solution for all your communication needs.

From voice, data, text and imaging, our range of products and services, backed by the best technology in the business, add up to your advantage everytime.

It's an advantage that's worked for Citibank, ONGC, Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Leela Kempinski, and a host of other clients.

And you will appreciate the efficiency of application specific EPABX's made in collaboration with OKI of Japan, versatile Data Communication Terminals made with Qwint Data Inc., USA and advanced multi-feature phones made in technical collaboration with Siemens, AG.,West Germany.

So whether your needs begin at 16 extensions or require Integrated Office Exchanges upto 7000 ports.

Or you're looking for advanced facilities like Analog and Digital Networks, simultaneous voice and data communications, radio paging, voice-mail, Fax's — we have them all.

From multi-feature telephones to advanced digital multi-key telephones, we have every kind of voice terminal. With ISDN compatible voice-data Networking capabilities.

Our Electronics R&D centres can also help develop specific communication solutions for you.

So whether it is satellite, microwave, Coaxial or optical fibre communication, we'll give you your telecommunication link.

Our after-sales service includes Remote Maintenance, that ensures an on-the-spot diagnosis and response to your problems, backed by an expert Customer Engineering Team.

Our range of Computers and Industrial Electronics products also help us take a comprehensive look at your needs.

That's why we can really talk of one, total, customised communication solution.

Wherever you are, whatever your requirements: if you need a telecommunication company that can offer you the optimal single source solution for today and the future —call Crompton Telecommunications, now.

Yes! I want to know more about Crompton Telecommunications and its single source advantage for my business.

Please have your team call on me.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

Mail to: Crompton Telecommunications
27, Rani Jhansi Road, New Delhi-110 055.
Tel: 514055/514910/737671

Tel: Bombay—294905. Calcutta—449681/85. Madras—470316.

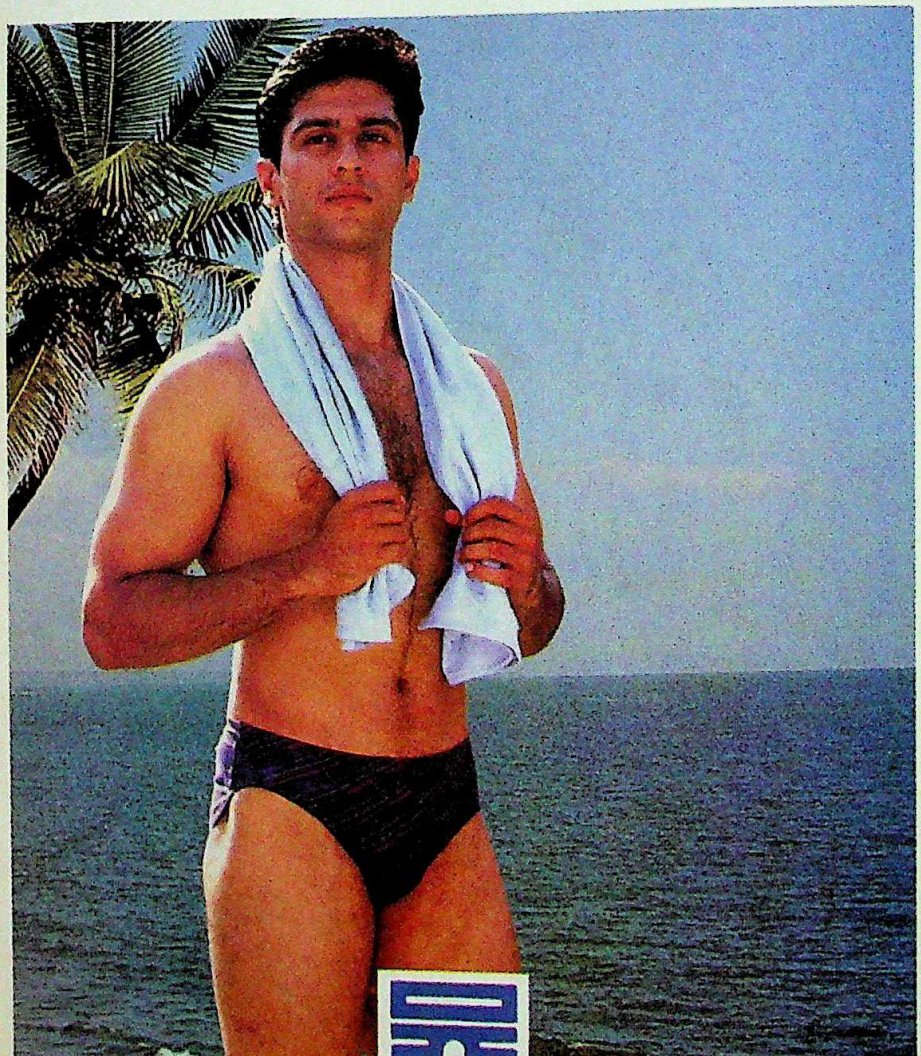
Crompton Greaves LIMITED

CROMPTON TELECOMMUNICATIONS. THE RIGHT DECISION.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ALL FRENCH FASHION
(CALLED "SHAWNZE LYZEY"* THE WORLD OVER)



Champs-Elysees Innerwear.

Created exclusively by Devanlay, France. For men who demand the very best the world has to offer.

Made entirely out of 100% supercombed, long staple cotton. Using the supersoft 'spandex' elastic band.

The result : a feel of luxury and comfort no other name can match.

Naturally, that makes Champs-Elysees a little more expensive. But then, aren't you the kind of man who wants quality at any cost ?

For a free copy of our colour catalogue, write at the address given below.

*

CHAMPS-ELYSEES

INNERWEAR FOR MEN

ANYTHING ELSE AT BEST IS SECOND BEST

B Brought to you in India by : ASIAN KNITWEARS PVT. LTD. (A unit of the Bhilwara Group)
SIDCO Industrial Complex, Bari Brahmana, Jammu-181133.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

adlyads/AK/125

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Celebrity Capers

Vapid account of Imran's journey down the Indus

AN INDUS JOURNEY
By IMRAN KHAN
Chatto & Windus
Price: £19.95; Pages: 144

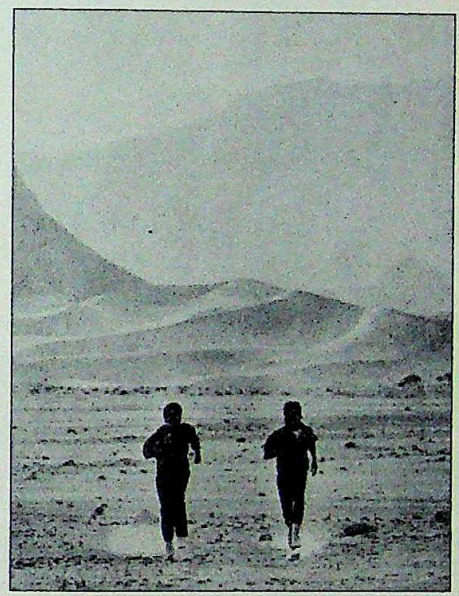
IT'S tough being a celebrity. Imagine the "sexiest man in international cricket", (courtesy, ever-obliging British tabloids) having to spend weeks trudging through the deserts of Sind, braving the frozen heights of Skardu or undertaking an uncomfortable boat-ride down the muddy Indus river.

But Imran Khan, 38, is not your everyday sports superstud content to use his celebrity status to peddle underarm deodorant. Most things he does, Imran somehow turns into an obsession. Having fulfilled his initial obsession—of becoming one of the greatest all-rounders in the game, captaining the Pakistan team and moulding it into a cricketing powerhouse—Imran has now turned his talents to the literary field. Perhaps with visibly less success but certainly not with any less dedication than he has displayed in the sporting arena.

With one autobiography, *All Round View*, already under his belt apart from his current duties as editor of the London-based magazine *The Cricketer*, Imran Khan is no stranger to the genre. What is somewhat strange, however, is the choice of his latest literary effort, a sentimental walkabout along the course of the river Indus as it meanders through Imran's native land. Along the way, Pakistan's most popular cricket hero manages to transform himself into an unrecognisable cocktail of travel writer, tourist guide and amateur historian.

The literary outcome may reflect his uncomfortable new role—most of the book reads like a tourist brochure. Considering his image as a jet-setting playboy, the transition to travel-related triteness is somewhat akin to Imran suddenly switching to bowling slow leg-spinners.

But that is precisely the modest intention behind the venture. Imran claims that he was inspired to write the book because "friends from abroad complained that there was very little to read about Pakistan". If the intention is to popularise and promote tourism in his country, Pakistan could certainly not have asked for a better—or better-known—ambassador.



Khan with team-mate Zakir Khan (top); and with cousin Hameed Niazi

In that sense, it is a labour of love, albeit a rather laboured one. The text is somewhat pedestrian and trite, constricted as it is by its historical bindings. Moreover, what the book clearly lacks is the colour, variety and vibrancy of contemporary Pakistan, which is captured only fleetingly by Mike Goldwater's photographs.

The author has clearly been carried away by the subject and the archival research that has obviously gone into it. Which is why a journey that should have produced a fascinating wealth of material—from the Indus delta on the Arabian Sea to its source high up in the Himalayas—is reduced instead to a soporific historical treatise. The overall effect is like Imran's own description of the river as it flows through the plains of Lower Punjab and Sindh: "placid, shallow and slow-moving".

Part of the reason for the weak effort could be that superstars like Imran Khan have perforce to live up to the man-in-a-hurry image they have created. The actual journey which covered 1,800 miles was completed in the brief span of three weeks—with time off on the way for a partridge shoot with his old

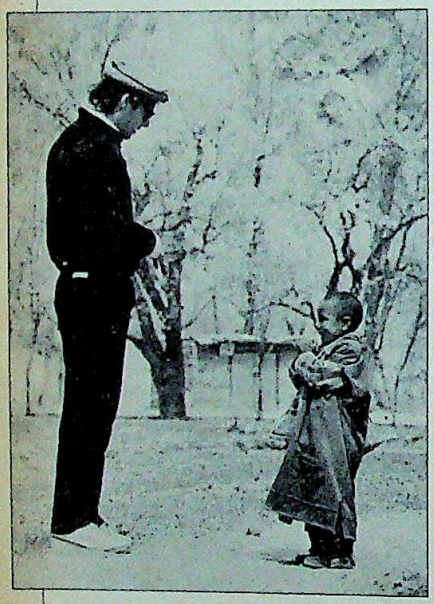
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

friend, the Nawab of Kalbagh.

Imran is known to be a man with strong, even controversial views. *Indus Journey* reveals his new-found crusade for conservation—the book is dedicated to the "dwindling forests and wildlife of Pakistan". But here again, Imran's occasional outbursts on ecology are submerged under the numbing weight of the book's predominantly socio-historical strait-jacket.

Indus Journey will do much for Pakistan's image; it will do little for the author's. Had Imran allowed his own personal views to be given more freedom, this would have been a worthwhile journey. But the flaw, if it can be termed that, is Imran's fierce patriotism. His love for his country is what inspired the book—and also restricts its appeal. He is clearly uncomfortable with wearing two caps; as a writer in



Khan explaining cricket to a Battistani child

love with the subject and as an objective critic of his country's failings.

He does bemoan the ram pant ecological dangers; lack of population control; destructive social snobbery and the restrictive government control on the economy. But such outbursts are few and far between and mentioned almost *en passant*. Consequently, the impact is virtually non-existent.

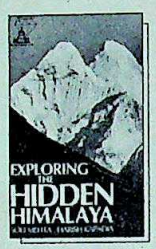
The result is a tame travelogue that could easily have been written by a bureaucrat in the Pakistan tourist office. What *Indus Journey* lacks the most is the one thing that Imran Khan has in abundance—star quality.

—DILIP BOBB

Peak Tales

The Himalayas unveiled

EXPLORING THE HIDDEN HIMALAYA
by SOLI MEHTA and HARISH KAPADIA
Hodder & Stoughton
Price: £20; Pages: 172



WHEN in 1988 the Himalayan Club celebrated its Diamond Jubilee, the time seemed right for it to sift 60 years of prime archival material on some of the lesser known peaks in the Indian Himalayas. This evolved no doubt out of John Martyn's monumental *History of the Himalayan Club* published 10 years earlier in the club's 50th anniversary issue of its Himalayan journal.

The club's founding fathers had established a tradition of documenting all ventures connected with the Himalayas, exemplified by Kenneth Mason's long years as editor. Many of these accounts, with their close attention to detail, are still extremely useful in planning major expeditions.

Confining themselves to the broad altitude range of 6,000 to 7,000 metres, Mehta and Kapadia have put together 72 visuals of selected peaks supported by an anecdotal text. The span is extensive, with eight sections, from the 'Assam Himalaya' to the Eastern Karakoram. Ridge and river maps accompany the text.

The book opens appropriately with Sikkim where the club built two mountain huts in the '40s, on each side of the Sebu La, the high pass astride the twin forks of the Teesta River. From Lachen, on the right fork, the route branches up the Zemu Chu to Green Lake and the Kanchenjunga massif with its outlying sentinel Siniolchu, frequently described as the most beautiful mountain in the world. In the records of this area we find the indelible names of Hooker, Freshfield and Kellas. Farther east, stretching from Paunhunri (7,125 metres) and Namche Barwa (7,726 metres) in the Brahmaputra basin, are the distant peaks of Gorichen (6,858 metres), Kangto (7,090 metres) still unclimbed and Nyegi Kangsang (7,047 metres), which has not even been attempted so far.

Predictably, the largest section centres around Kumaon and Garhwal, the latter being the world's main mountaineering arena today. Here lie extreme grade climbing possibilities on the outer wall of the Nanda Devi Sanctuary, down to the Goriganga Valley and the Kalabaland Glacier. The fine lines of Tirsuli, Nanda Gond and Chirbas Parbat stand out for direct routes up very difficult faces. And they well might be easily attained by today's crop of technically adept, Alpine-style climbers.

Longer on access but attractively remote are the restricted inner line regions of upper Kinnaur and Spiti. High above the deep gorges of the Sutlej and the Spiti rivers tower the guardians of the old Hindustan-Tibet road, among them Kinnaur Kailash, Leo Pargial and the peaks of the Chango Basin.

Be it the Manikaran spires in Kulu, the Chandrabhaga triangle of summits in Lahoul or the maze of mountains lying between the Indus and the Chenab in Kishtwar-Zanskar, the possibilities are endless.

Finally, there are sections on Ladakh and the Eastern Karakoram, immortalised by the Bullock-Workmans and the early attempts in the Siachen, Rimo and Saser Kangri group of mountains.

The chief merit of the book lies in its attempt at exciting the itinerant mountaineer. With its wide cross-section of references, new routes can be planned in familiar as well as lesser known terrain. However, the range available is vast and the book cannot, therefore, go beyond presenting new suggestions. Of the photographs, Anup Sah's Panwali Dwar and Stephen Venables' Hagshu are vividly beautiful. One hopes that in the next volume, the list of photographs will include more from those who are active today, both in India and overseas.

Moreover, the environmental dangers facing the Himalayas today are all too evident and need incorporation in a book of this kind. The text could also have been embellished with route grading details.

The degree of difficulty of a climb, further divided into sections on the route, is the key to its position on the mountaineering scale. By that yardstick, the book attempts a fairly difficult climb—and successfully. No better compliment is possible to the late Soli Mehta who did not live to see the book in print.

—SUDHIR SAH

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

A little planning, a lot of love...

and even with small savings your child can be a lakhpati by 21.

Today, he's a little baby in your arms. Your presence is all he needs to feel safe and secure. But all too soon, tomorrow will be here. And he'll be stepping out into the world. Facing the harsh realities of life.

Why not plan your child's future now? Invest in Unit Trust's Children's Gift Growth Fund. Under this plan, with small investments made over a period of time, your child can be a lakhpati by the time he's 21.

Q. How should you invest to make your child a lakhpati?
A. If you invest in CGGF at the child's birth, here are some of the many options. (i) You can invest Rs. 1,100 at birth and then every year till the child is 15 years. (ii) You can invest Rs. 3,200 for 3 successive years or Rs. 1,900 for 6 successive years. (iii) You can invest Rs. 8,500 once and for all.

Q. Suppose the child is older?
A. There are plans for every age up to 15. The CGGF brochure has charts that explain it all. Please write in for it.

Q. Who can gift it to the child?
A. Parents, relatives, friends, companies or corporate bodies.

Q. What is the minimum amount you can invest?
A. Rs.500 and thereafter in multiples of Rs.100.

Q. What are the returns on the investment?
A. 12.5% per annum plus a bonus dividend every 5 years.

Q. Is there any facility after maturity?
A. Instead of withdrawing the amount, the child can put it in any other scheme of UTI available at that time.

For free literature on CGGF, please contact any Unit Trust office or Chief Representative or Agent, or selected Hindustan Petroleum or Indianoil petrol pumps.

Or mail this coupon for more information to any of the Unit Trust offices.

Please send me free literature on CGGF.
Name: _____
_____
Address: _____
_____

Invest in Unit Trust's Children's Gift Growth Fund

UNIT TRUST OF INDIA

(A Public Sector Financial Institution)

* 13, Sir Vithaldas Thackersey Marg (New Marine Lines), Bombay 400 020. Tel: 2863767, 6201995
* 2 & 4, Fairlie Place, Calcutta 700 001. Tel: 209391, 205322
* Justice Basheer Ahmed Syed Building, 45, Second Line Beach, Madras 600 001. Tel: 587433, 580938
* Gulab Bhavan (Rear Block) 2nd Floor, 6, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi 110 002. Tel: 3318638, 3319786

Sista's-UTI-80/90 A

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

By helping give leather a soft, supple, sensuous feel, we're taking export markets by storm and appeal

For long, India's leather industry got a raw deal. It exported raw hides and glumly saw them turned into sleek pieces that fetched a fortune. Then SM Dyechem helped out with import substitute processing chemicals that gave leather sensuous appeal. Today, the shoe is on the other foot. For Indian leather now fashions the look that is all the rage. **Critical involvement, core contributions.** We're intimately involved with several core industries:offering new generation inputs, import-substitute chemicals... helping in their export drive. We've tied up with 4 of Europe's technology leaders. Acquired know-how that compresses gestation periods. Turned start-up projects into profit-centres in record time. In the process, we've doubled our profits each and every year. And become one of the most sought after scrips in the stock market. **A chain reaction of successes.** Achievement breeds its own ambition. From our pinnacle in the speciality chemicals market, we're taking off in diverse directions. Our vision of the near future encompasses projects to manufacture Methanol, Pig Iron, Carbon Black and a world-class Beer. **On the anvil is an agro-based Petrochemicals project. To each of these projects we'll bring our unique touch of Value Multiplication. Spread the benefits... and share the rewards.**

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

High-value addition for high profitability. High-tech inputs for high-growth areas.

- Leather
- Textiles
- Man-made Fibres
- Animal Health Care
- Detergents and Toiletries
- Pharmaceuticals
- Processed Foods
- Pesticides
- Fertilisers
- Oilfield chemicals

SM

SM DYECHEM

SUCCESS THROUGH VALUE MULTIPLICATION

SM Dyechem Ltd. SM House, 11, Sahakar Road, Vile Parle (E), Bombay 400 057.

Adfactors/SMDL/222

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Durga: singing star

◆ MUSIC or Cinema? Being the daughter of Pandit Jasraj and the granddaughter of V.Shantaram, **Durga Jasraj**, 20, simply decided to make the most of both genes and signed up for a Marathi TV serial where she will debut as a singing star. "Why can't I bring back the era of Suraiya?" says Durga whose past successes include modelling for Shikakai soap and accompanying her famous father on the tanpura. *Paulkhuna*, directed by Amol Palekar, is a revolutionary serial that follows the evolution of women from the kitchen to the boardroom. Now Papa Jasraj can truly tell his daughter: "You've come a long way, baby."

◆ THE similarities are eerie: it was the same court, the same car, and even the same driver. On September 20, the Union Minister for Environment **Nilamani Routray** drove into the Bhubaneswar court to file a defamation suit worth Rs 50 lakh against *The Illustrated Weekly of India* for calling him a "senile, doddering old fool".

Routray: seeking justice

PRAMOD PUSHKARNA

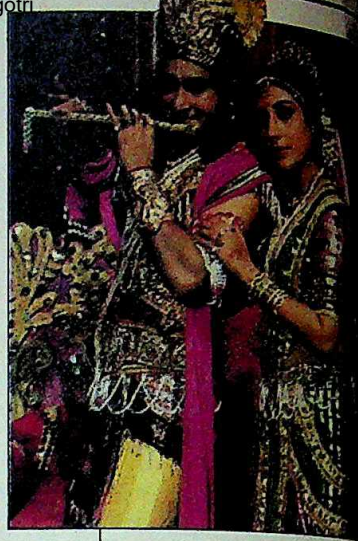
Four years ago, former Orissa chief minister, J.B. Patnaik also drove into the same court to sue *The Weekly*. He came in the same car, with the same driver. And even used the same lawyer. Do the coincidences imply that the case will also end the same way—with *The Weekly* having to say sorry?

Wodeyar and the royal treasures

◆ ALL that wealth but alas, no money to pay wealth tax. So, what's a poor maharaja to do? Last week, **Srikantadatta Narasimharaja Wodeyar**, 37, the last of the Mysore royals decided to unveil his family's goodies that had been gathering royal dust for years. "All these days the jewellery was in the store-room of the palace," says Wodeyar who last week 'open sesame'd' it to the public—for an entrance fee.

The pearl carpets, 400-year-old crowns, gold daggers studded with diamonds and other such family toys—worth Rs 5.20 crore—will be guarded by armed guards and infrared gismos. Wodeyar hopes to earn Rs 20 lakh a year from Alibaba's cave. Which may send the tax men scurrying to their calculators again.

◆ FATHER and son are both beating it—but on different sides of the globe. So, when tabla maestros **Zakir Husain** and father **Allah Rakha** happened to be together in Bombay for just a few hours (after midnight), Magnasound chief, Shashi Gopal decided to grab them. The studio was hurriedly booked, an elevator specially put into action for the 72-year-old maestro. The recording started at midnight and by 5.30 a.m. it was all over. "The opportunity to do a recording together has come after very long," said Allah Rakha. The *jugalbandi* cassette has turned out to be a best seller having sold over 20,000 in the first two weeks. Clearly, when east meets west, the product sells best.



Anuradha: celestial role

◆ FIRST he was after Sita. Then he made a beeline for Radha. And last month, Ramanand Sagar, the man who makes gods out of mortals (and fortunes for himself), found just the woman to dance to Krishna's flute in his ambitious new video serial called *Krishna*. **Anuradha** (which literally means younger Radha) is the granddaughter of Maharaja Bijayendra Singh of Raigarh and a staunch *bhakt* of Krishna anyway. "I was destined to play Radha," she says matter of factly. The *gopi*-to-be has already acted in several regional films, posed as baby Hema Malini in *Johnny Mera Naam*. She has trained at the British Theatre Association resulting in her confidence. Now she is ready for greener pastures: like, a honeymoon with Krishna at Umbergaon.

Zakir with Allah Rakha

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Courtesy: Neha Arts

Samaj Foundation, Gangotri

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

GREAT INDIAN SPIRIT

A passion called cinema.

And a scooter called Bajaj.

The first a jubilee hit.

The second a jubilee hit.

Both reflecting

the great Indian spirit.

Bajaj Scooters:
Super, Chetak, Priya & Cub.

bajaj auto

You just can't beat a bajaj

INDIA TODAY

OCTOBER 31, 1990

VEERENDRA PATIL

KARNATAKA: MESSY POLITICS

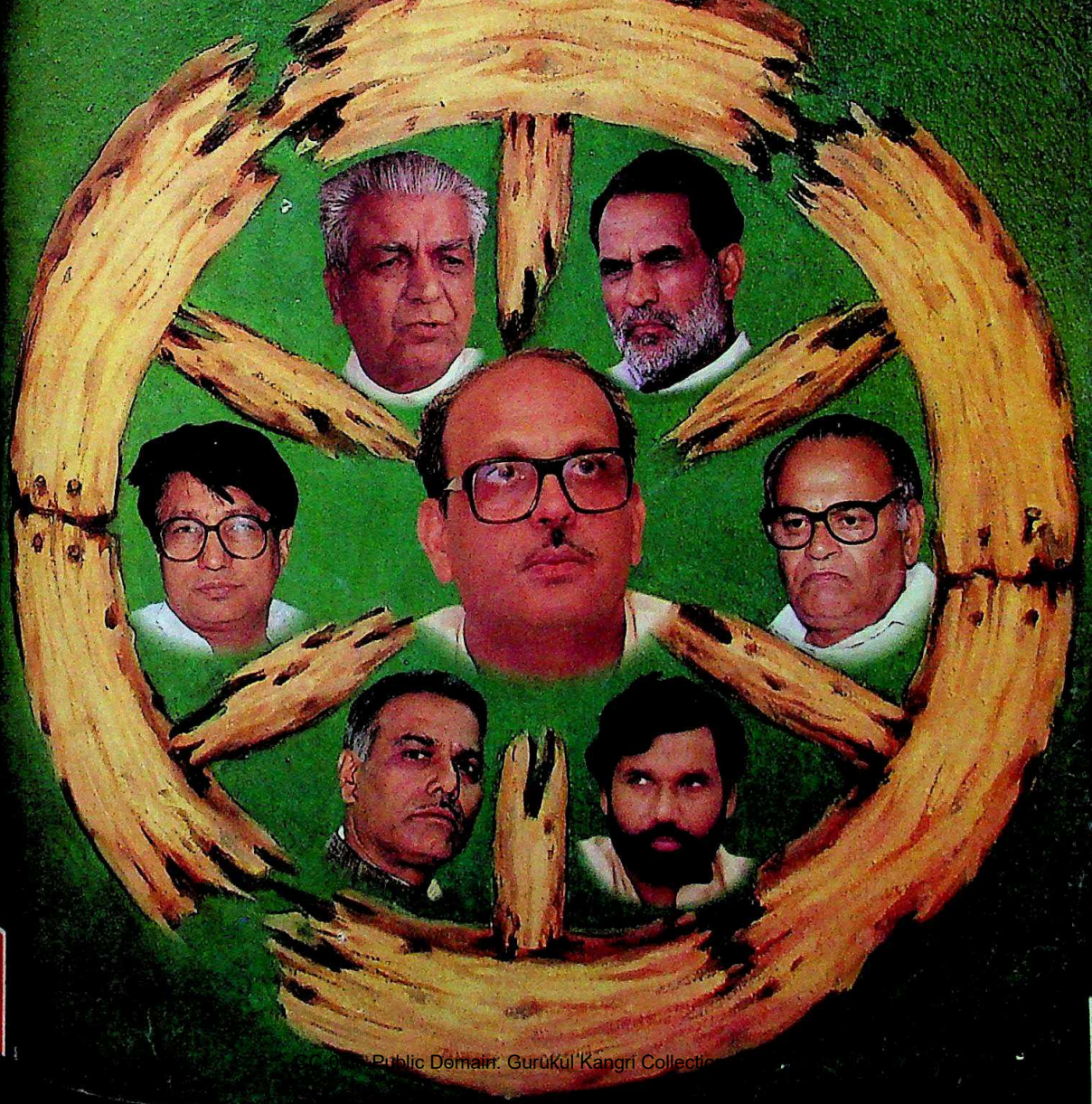
RESERVATIONS: IMMOLATION TRAUMA

XI ASIAD: DEBACLE DIARY

JANATA DAL

CRACKING UP

Reeling under the combined onslaught of the Mandal backlash and an open revolt by over 20 MPs the Janata Dal is heading for a major internal showdown.



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

The Silk People. He loves designer drapes. She loves daydreaming Their walls love Luxol Silk.

Silk sheen ... silken fe

BERGER Luxol Silk

Drape your walls with Luxol Silk — the richest emulsion in the world.

BERGER PAINTS

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

LINTAS (CAL)/BP/LS/P2/2719

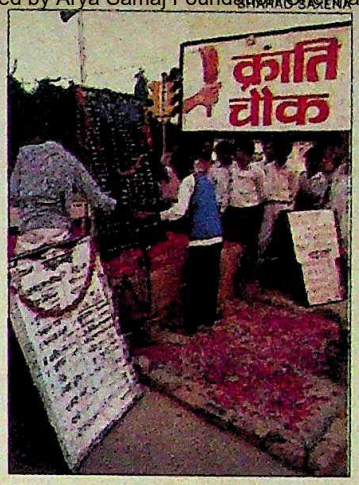
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

IT was bad enough for the country to be rocked with violence in the aftermath of the Mandal report, but to witness the horrific spectacle of youth after youth immolating themselves has been a devastating experience—a trauma that no other nation has faced. It boggles the mind, it breaks the heart. More than 159 youngsters have attempted suicide—63 have died—within a month and helplessly we continue to watch, wondering how much longer this epidemic will last.

For us, covering this phenomenon has become an excruciating dilemma as it has for the rest of the media. Many politicians have blamed the press for fanning the flames of student protest by reporting it prominently. Some have even attacked the agitation's coverage as an "upper caste" conspiracy hatched by the "capitalist press" in New Delhi.

While I will not dignify this extreme rhetoric with comment, I believe many of the concerns that have been expressed are genuine and deserve examination. Giving prominence to pictures and stories of students burning themselves, critics charge, encourages them into committing even more such irresponsible acts. The media attention supposedly gives them a moment of profound, if perverse, glory. The media instead of being a recorder of events becomes a catalyst. There may be a germ of truth to this.

Undoubtedly the media treads a fine line: to keep reporting even as it scrupulously avoids taking inflammatory positions or encouraging violence. But let us not forget that the media did not create the tragedy and would be much happier if the crisis had not assumed such ghastly dimensions. It was created by the politicians in what will go down as one of the most immoral and ill-conceived acts of political expediency. They have unleashed a firestorm of which they are trying to make the press a scapegoat. And their hidebound insistence on refusing to budge has probably done more to push students into acts of desperation than anything the media has done.



Delhi's Kranti Chowk: list of the dead

IN the current issue, in its continuing coverage of the Mandal fall-out, INDIA TODAY *examines the psychology behind the phenomenon of self-immolation. This does not in any way mean that we condone this act of ultimate protest. In fact, this is also an appeal to students not to take their lives. An appeal to their parents and friends not to encourage them in this tragic display of bravado.*

For though students the world over have always been the conscience of their countries and have struggled, often successfully, to fight injustice, the protests have to be positive. In this context, perhaps the only sensible remark made by the prime minister during this crisis is the advice to the students not to kill themselves, but to remain alive to fight him. The youth need to take his advice—although he doesn't take theirs—and take up his challenge.

CONTENTS

Cover Story 34

Mandal Fall-out 22

Comment 11
Capitalook 14
Indianotes 20
Special Report 22
Cover Story 34
Indian Navy 48
Current Events 57
Special Report 76
Special Feature 84
Guest Column 90
Beijing Asiad 94
Business Feature 106
Business 119
Globe-Trotting 145
Neighbours 157
Lifestyle 167
Cinema 173
Brasstacks 179
Books 187
Eye-catchers 192

Karnataka 76

Asiad diary 94

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

VHS

Sony VHS

So many to choose from. So much to enjoy.

There's so much enjoyment to choose from with Sony's full line-up of VHS video cassette recorders. For example, take the SLV-X30. With the **"Dual Mode Shuttle" Ring** to replace a host of function buttons, for the ultimate in convenient operation. There's even an **Auto Head Cleaner** to clean the video heads every time you load or eject a cassette. Add the **Super Access Mechanism** with **High Speed Rewind, Digital Auto Tracking** and **Auto Menus**, and you have an unbeatable combination of multiple functions and easy operation. And that's just one member of the Sony VHS line-up. For quality and convenience, there's really only one name in video. Sony.

X30 Wide range of features and easy operation

SLV-X30 • "Dual Mode Shuttle" Ring • Auto Head Cleaner • Turbo Picture to improve inferior picture quality • Super Access Mechanism and High Speed Rewind • Unified Remote Commander • Still/Slow motion • Digital Auto Tracking • Auto Menu • Auto voltage • HQ

SONY SERVICE NETWORK IN INDIA

SONY SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE IN INDIA
OLYMPIA SERVICE CENTRE
HEAD OFFICE: 808-9, MEGHDOOT, 94 NEHRU PLACE, NEW DELHI-110 019 TEL: 641-6344, 641-6296

AUTHORIZED SERVICE CENTRES

NEW DELHI: OLYMPIA SERVICE CENTRE
55-A, SIDHARTH CHAMBERS, (NEXT TO AZAD APARTMENT), HAUZ KHAS, NEW DELHI-110 016 TEL: 686-4947

BOMBAY: OLYMPIA SERVICE CENTRE
ARUN CHAMBERS, GROUND FLOOR S 22/23, TARDEO ROAD, BOMBAY-400 034 TEL: 4940629

CALCUTTA: OLYMPIA SERVICE CENTRE
6-C MIDDLETON STREET, CALCUTTA-700 071 TEL: 296601, 297545

MADRAS: STEREO VISION
846-A, MOUNT ROAD (NEXT TO INDIA SILK HOUSE), MADRAS-600 002 TEL: 835444, 835489

BANGALORE: TELEVIDEO SERVICES
108, E & F, SHAHAZAD BUILDINGS, J.C.ROAD, BANGALORE-560 002 TEL: 220164

HYDERABAD: MABOOD ELECTRONICS
5-8-602 SHOP NO. 8, MUBARAK BAZAR, ABID ROAD, HYDERABAD-500 029 TEL: 233131

COCHIN: BIONIX
WARRIER BUILDING, M.G.ROAD, ERNAKULAM, COCHIN-682 016 TEL: 369425

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

SONY®

VHS

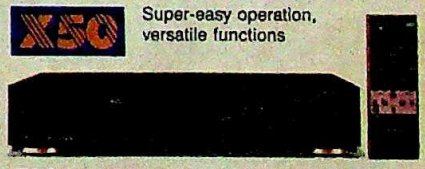
X90 Worldwide compatibility with the Super Multi System

SLV-X90 •Super Multi System: PAL (B/G, D/K, I), MESECAM (B/G, D/K), NTSC 4.43, 3.58 •DA Pro 4 head •Clean still/slow •Super Access Mechanism •Unified Remote Commander •Digital Auto Tracking •VISS •Auto voltage •HQ

X70 3 system Worldwide 5 standard—go-anywhere enjoyment

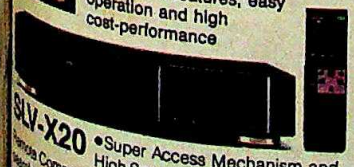
SLV-X70 •3 system Worldwide 5 standard system: PAL (B/G, D/K, I) •MESECAM (B/G, D/K), NTSC 4.43 •Super Access Mechanism •Unified Remote Commander •Digital Auto Tracking •Auto voltage •HQ

X50 Super-easy operation, versatile functions



SLV-X50 •"Dual Mode Shuttle" Ring •Auto Head Cleaner •DA Pro 4 head •Clean still/slow •Super Access Mechanism •Digital Auto Tracking •Unified Remote Commander •Front panel line in terminals •Auto voltage •HQ

X20 Convenient features, easy operation and high cost-performance

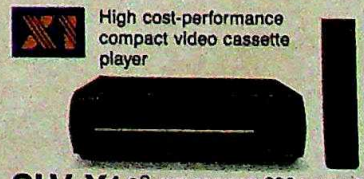


SLV-X20 •Super Access Mechanism and High Speed Rewind •Unified Remote Commander •Still/Frame advance •Blank search •Remote timer programming •Auto voltage

X3 Compact video cassette player gives NTSC playback on PAL TVs

SLV-X3 •Super-compact 290mm width •Super Access Mechanism •NTSC playback on PAL TVs •Unified Remote Commander •Still/Frame advance •Repeat

X1 High cost-performance compact video cassette player

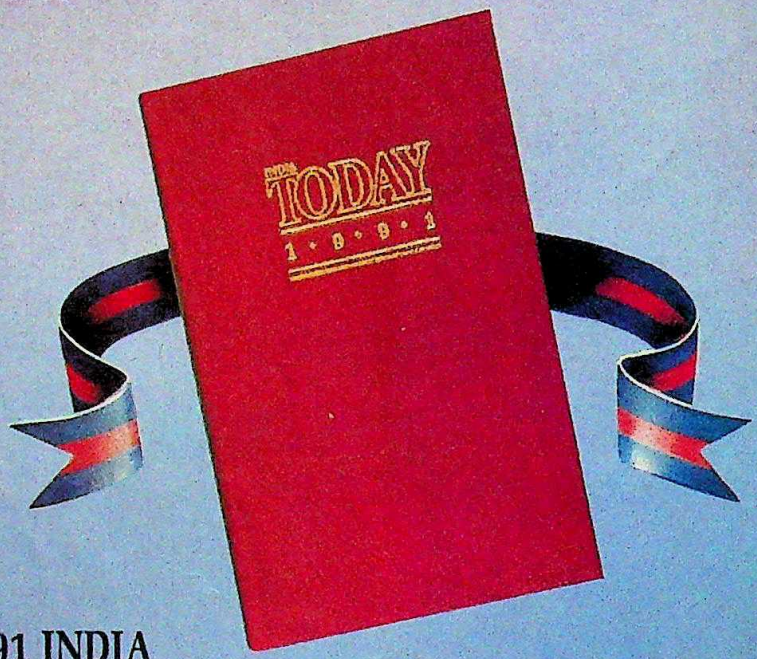


SLV-X1 •Super-compact 290mm width •Super Access Mechanism •Unified Remote Commander •Still/Frame advance •Repeat

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

An attractive gift offer from INDIA TODAY



A Free* 1991 INDIA TODAY POCKET DIARY with every subscription to INDIA TODAY.

If you are already a subscriber of INDIA TODAY or are going to be one soon, we have for you a special offer – A Free* 1991 INDIA TODAY POCKET DIARY priced at Rs. 45. Incredibly compact and convenient, the 1991 INDIA TODAY POCKET DIARY is packed with all the features you need, including quick information sections on hotels and essential ISD/STD codes. With this compact diary you can now carry all the day-to-day information you could need, with you.

Plus the advantage of a 3-fold benefit-Just sitting at home.

- Receive your INDIA TODAY regularly and well on time.
- Safely home delivered to you-free.
- At Rs. 8 instead of the cover price of Rs. 10.

AMOUNT PAYABLE AGAINST SPECIAL OFFER:

☐ For new subscribers: Rs. 202** which includes cost of an annual subscription to **INDIA TODAY** at Rs. 192 and the cost of handling, packing and registered postage at Rs.10 for the Free 1991 INDIA TODAY POCKET DIARY.

☐ For current subscribers: Rs.10** towards cost of handling, packing and registered postage for the Free 1991 INDIA TODAY POCKET DIARY.

PLEASE NOTE:

*Cost of handling, packing and registered postage extra.

** 1. The remittance should be in the form of a crossed cheque/DD favouring LIVING MEDIA INDIA LTD.
2. For outstation cheques, i.e. outside Delhi, Rs. 5 to be added as bank charges to the total amount.
3. Cheque/Draft payable in Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras must be MICR only.

***For current subscribers availing of the special offer, this should be as it appears on the label of the wrapper of the subscription copy of **INDIA TODAY.**

IF THE ORDER FORM IS MISSING:

Please send your order alongwith your name, address and remittance. Please mail all orders to: LIVING MEDIA INDIA LTD., P.B. No. 706, Faridabad-121007, HARYANA.

ORDER FORM

Subscribe today and avail of the special gift offer.

Yes, I would like to avail of the Special gift offer. I am a

☐ New Subscriber. Please begin my annual subscription to **INDIA TODAY**, and send my copy of the Free* 1991 INDIA TODAY POCKET DIARY

☐ Current Subscriber. Please send my copy of the Free* 1991 INDIA TODAY POCKET DIARY.

I am enclosing my cheque**/DD for Rs. _____ payable to LIVING MEDIA INDIA LTD.

Name*** _____

Address _____

_____

_____

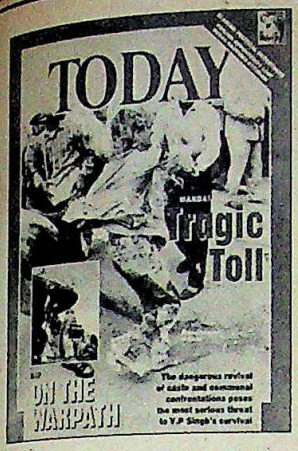
_____ Pin _____

Subscription No. _____ (Only for current subscribers)

Rate and offer valid in India only.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



MISGUIDED ENDEAVOUR

Prime Minister V.P. Singh has renounced his moral authority to govern in the face of the self-immolation attempts ("Tragic Toll", October 15). Instead of dealing with the situation with sympathy, excessive force is being used to suppress the agitation. The self-immolation bid by Rajeev Goswami should serve as an eye opener to V.P. Singh of the serious consequences of his trying to emulate the British in following a policy of divide and rule.

Delhi — YESHWANT TRASI & SHASHI KANT

■ Your article on the Government's decision to implement the Mandal Commission recommendations ("Dividing to Rule", September 15) is a fair assessment of the situation. To implement the recommendations of the report in spite of its obvious inadequacies is unjust. Well-to-do children of the OBCs will be given preference in employment over ordinary middle class people who have struggled twice as hard in life.

Bhubaneswar — AHALYA HEJMADI

■ The prime minister has shown rare wisdom in implementing the Mandal Commission recommendations. It's strange that the English press has opposed it as by its implementation alone can the underprivileged be brought into the national mainstream.

Madras — S. RETNASWAMY

■ With V.P. Singh determined to implement reservations in all sections of the Government of India, it would not be surprising if we soon hear about reserved seats in city buses, railways, airlines, and even cinema halls. He is out to create a new 'South Africa' just to make his own seat 'reserved'.

New Delhi — ARVIND B. KULKARNI

■ V.P. Singh's decision to implement the Mandal Commission recommendations proves beyond doubt that he is no better than the average politician who resorts to cheap gimmicks for personal political gains. The violent resistance to its implementation shows that the people are fast losing faith in him as their leader.

Manipal — P. MADHAV RAO

■ For the upliftment of the depressed sections of our society, what is more effective—genuine land reforms or reservations? And who should be punished—the exploiters of these backward people or the poor salaried class?

Trivandrum — CHANDU

■ V.P. Singh should own responsibility for the present anarchic state of the country on the reservation issue. Just a few years ago, he had resigned as chief minister of Uttar Pradesh because he could not fulfil his promise of freeing the region of dacoits within a certain time period. Now, he must once again gracefully resign.

Jodhpur — VINEET KOTHARI

■ The prime minister's announcement on the Mandal Commission recommendations is shocking. If any one class really deserves reservations based on any social criterion, it is the women of India. How about reserving 50 per cent of seats for them in educational institutions and government institutions? This would be their just share and it would not divide society along caste lines either.

New York — RUDRA PRATAP

INADEQUATE FACILITIES

It is ironical that a country as large as India is not able to produce even a handful of sportspersons of international standards ("Promising Prospects", September 30). The reasons are obvious. No importance is given to sports at the lower levels in schools. Training facilities are poor. And, of course, politics predominates.

Madras — SASHI NAIR

MISPLACED PRIORITIES

Lack of personal hygiene and poor health facilities in rural areas are the prime causes of sterilisation deaths ("The Vanishing Tribes", September 30). Our bureaucrats concentrate all their efforts on simply reducing the rate of population growth at any cost, while paying little or no attention to the increasing infant mortality rate and sterilisation deaths.

Davangere — V. PRABHAKAR

IGNOBLE DEALINGS

There can be no doubt that Arun Nehru ("New Suspicions", September 30) stands indicted in the Bofors affair by the despatches of Roff Gauffin, the then Swedish ambassador to India. The documents clearly show that Arun Nehru negotiated between the Government and Martin Ardbo although it was no part of his function as minister for power.

Kanpur — KUMUD MEHROTRA

■ Arun Nehru, by not coming out with the truth, has become a source of embarrassment to the Janata Dal Government which had promised to reveal the names of the recipients of the Bofors pay-offs? Does his silence indicate that he is indirectly supporting the people who took commission? And where is Arun Shourie's investigative journalism which haunted Rajiv's government a year ago?

New Delhi — BIJENDRA S. AHLAWAT

TURMOIL IN THE VALLEY

The report ("A Subtle Shift", September 30) ignores the hard and tragic realities at the ground level at the time of my arrival in the Valley on July 21. Your reporter did not bother to check up her 'facts' and 'assumptions' with me. I do not wish to enter into any controversy but to keep the record straight, I strongly deny that I had established contact with Shabir Shah or any other militant.

New Delhi — JAGMOHAN

■ When Jagmohan says, "I retrieved Kashmir from Pakistan", he isn't bragging. Instead of backing him to the hilt the National Front Govern-

VOLUME XV NUMBER 20: FOR THE FORTNIGHT OCTOBER 16–31, 1990

● EDITORIAL OFFICE LIVING MEDIA INDIA LTD, F-14/15, CONNAUGHT PLACE NEW DELHI 110001, PHONE: 3315801-4, TELEX: 31-61245 INTO IN CABLE: LIVMEDIA, NEW DELHI ● SUBSCRIPTIONS: LIVING MEDIA INDIA LIMITED, POST BOX 706, FARIDABAD-121007, HARYANA ● TRADE CIRCULATION: INDIA TODAY CIRCULATION MANAGER, F-14 CONNAUGHT PLACE, MIDDLE CIRCLE, NEW DELHI. PHONE: 3313076-8, TELEX: 31-62634 INTO IN ● ADVERTISING OFFICES: 28 A&B JOLLY MAKER CHAMBER II, NARIMAN POINT, BOMBAY-400021, PHONE: 2026152, 2029126, 2029435, TELEX: 11-85173 THOM IN, CABLE: LIVMEDIA, BOMBAY ● K-9, CONNAUGHT CIRCUS, NEW DELHI-110001, PHONES: 3325378, 3323576, 3321323 AND 3321273, TELEX: 31-62124 THOM IN, CABLE: LIVMEDIA, NEW DELHI ● FAGUN CHAMBERS, 26 COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF ROAD, MADRAS-600105, PHONE: 477188, 479163, CABLE: LIVMEDIA MADRAS ● 74/1 ST. MARKS ROAD, BANGALORE-560001, PHONE: 213037, 212448: CABLE: LIVMEDIA, BANGALORE ● 12C EVEREST 46C CHOWRINGEE ROAD, CALCUTTA-700016, PHONE: 225398, 221922, CABLE: LIVINMEDIA, CALCUTTA ● COPYRIGHT 1987 LIVING MEDIA INDIA LTD. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. REPRODUCTION IN ANY MANNER IS PROHIBITED. PUBLISHED BY AROON PURIE FOR LIVING MEDIA INDIA LTD, NEW DELHI AND PRINTED AT THOMSON PRESS INDIA LTD, FARIDABAD HARYANA ● INDIA TODAY DOES NOT TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR RETURNING UNSOLICITED PUBLICATION MATERIAL ●

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

INDIA TODAY
INTERNATIONAL EDITION

GIFT INDIA TO SOMEONE YOU CARE FOR...

GIFT FOR
ADDRESS
CITY CODE
COUNTRY

Please send one year's subscription of *INDIA TODAY*, International Edition and my gift card to the person named above. Enclosed is my cheque*/DD*/(add Rs. 5/- for outstation cheques, ie. outside Delhi) for Rs.

payable to Living Media India Ltd

MY NAME
ADDRESS

Send this advertisement and payment to:
Living Media India Ltd.
P.B. No. 706,
Faridabad 121 007

Annual Airmail Subscription Rates

Rs. 365 BANGLADESH BHUTAN NEPAL

Rs. 850 ALL OTHER COUNTRIES

*Cheques/Bank Drafts payable at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras must be MICR only.

ment put hurdles in his way. When he accepted his second term as governor, he had considered all the difficulties and dangers he would be exposed to. What he did not take into account was the ways of treacherous politicians of every hue and colour.

Allahabad JAYA MEHTA

■ It is disappointing that the media has not uttered a word about the non-Kashmiri employees of banks and insurance companies who have been posted in Kashmir. Away from their families for nearly eight months, these people lead a miserable life, while the 'migrant' employees abstaining from duty are pampered with special leave, salaries for the period they didn't work and postings outside Kashmir.

Srinagar RAJ SHARMA

SENSITIVE ISSUE

Mulayam Singh Yadav's dubious secular and socialist credentials ("Battle Stations", September 30) have taken a further beating due to his anti-democratic stance. No rallies except those organised by the Janata Dal are allowed in Uttar Pradesh. Congress(I) and CPI protesters, farmers, students, have been beaten, and jailed without trial. The state is now a fascist one.

Lucknow RAJENDRA N. GOUR

■ The Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid issue has touched the national psyche. Mulayam Singh Yadav is on a sticky wicket on this problem facing not only Uttar Pradesh but the nation. The tactics he is adopting are sure to throw oil on a raging emotional fire.

Bangalore D.B.N. MURTHY

PRESERVING HERITAGE

Your article on the Chettiar mansions ("Relics of an Opulent Past", September 30) should have mentioned the establishment of the Annamalai University at Annamalainagar by Sir Annamalai Chettiar, the Raja of Chettinad. It is one of the better universities of the south, and perhaps the only privately funded university in India.

Dharwad ANIL MUDBIDRI

WRONG NUMBER

In the story "Gearing Up" (September 30) the total turnover of the Thapar group was inadvertently printed as above Rs 15,000 crore instead of above Rs 1,500 crore.

—Editor

BIASED COVERAGE

The much-talked-about autonomy for Doordarshan ("Ambiguous Autonomy", September 30) is sheer bunkum. Doordarshan regularly showed clippings of all the pro-reservation demonstrations and rallies in the capital but on the other hand totally ignored the anti-reservation demonstrations and agitations. Is this the same Janata Dal which when out of power, in its election manifesto said so much about the suppression of media autonomy and accused the Congress(I) of using the electronic media only for its own publicity?

Bhopal SHANKAR GAUR

NO TEARS

Your article on the Gulf crisis ("An Indian Nightmare", September 15) movingly portrays the plight of Indians stranded in Kuwait. However, the stories of white-collar workers selling their luxury goods for a song do not evoke much sympathy amongst us. Many amassed great wealth as is evident from the display of their opulence in Mangalore and Kerala.

Bhadravati SHAILAJA KARANTH

A RURAL SLIP

NABARD stands for National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, not National Bank for Agriculture Reconstruction and Development as mentioned in your article ("A Violent Mess", September 15).

Gulbarga S.V. KULKARNI

UNNECESSARY FIZZ

Does the soft drink industry ("Fighting for the Fizz", September 15) deserve any priority whatsoever in a country where millions of people go without adequate food or safe drinking water? Then why all this unnecessary fuss over fizz?

Chandigarh AMARJIT S. DEEPAK

BRAINWASH MACHINE

The Mediawatch column ("Playing Politics", September 15) was really good. Saying that *The Indian Express*, in recent years, has become a campaign newspaper is putting it too mildly. It is nothing less than a brainwash machine. All news is terribly adulterated with comment which is unfair and biased.

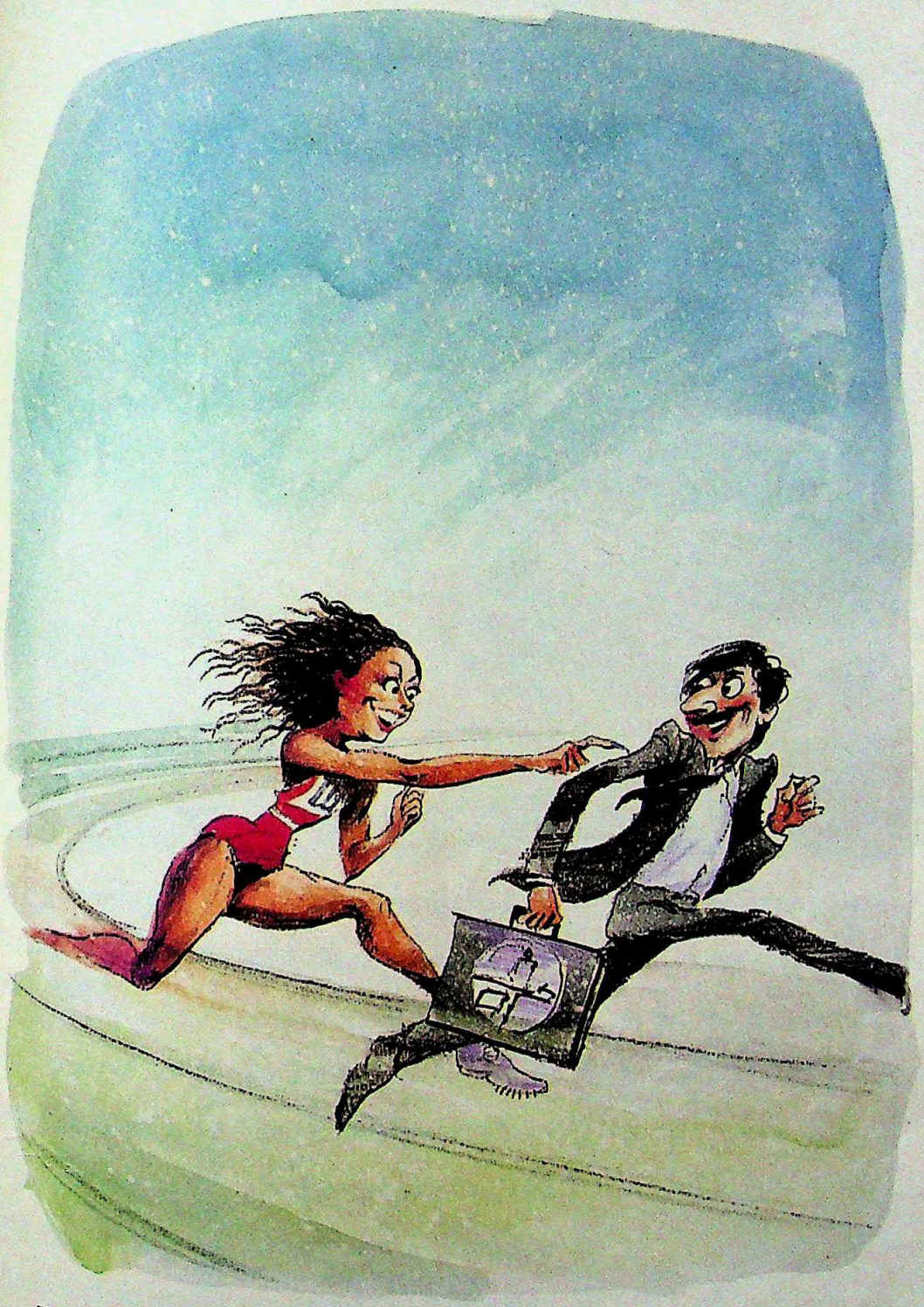
Hyderabad L. RAMESH

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

What did Flo Jo of the U.S. say to the Skypak Man?

"And you thought, you were the only one who could smile while moving at record-breaking speed?"



We'll deliver. Wherever on earth. SKYPAK The worldwide couriers.

Skypak House, Off M. Vassanji Road, Marol, Andheri (E), Bombay 400 059.

Avenues SC 568.90

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

THE ORIGINAL VERSION OF "FILL IT. SHUT IT. FORGET IT

The desert is not a friendly place.

Survival here takes either great ability or enormous luck. Or a wise ally. Who knows the ways of the land.

Say hello to the camel.

To all appearances, this strange beast was made to order, something nature designed specially for the desert. By stretching one's imagination, the camel might well be a blueprint for … a motorbike.

SO LET'S TALK ABOUT CAMELS AND MOTORBIKES.

When Soichi Honda, the engineering genius and chairman of the Honda Motor Company launched the 50cc 4-stroke Super Cub

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ON O
GET IT

ALK ABOU
LS AND
RBIKES.

Soichi
engineer
chairman
Motor Co
ed the 50
per Cub

8, camels were prob-
the last thing on his
d.

But the camel is no
n to us in India.
thout commenting on
appearance, it's the
t dependable form of
sport in the sandy wilds, with an unsurpassed ability to carry on and on, for days at a stretch.

The not-so-surprising feature is that the camel requires very little maintenance, content to live on vegetation and the occasional drink of water.

Truly, an outstanding example of a good thing going.

Just like the 4-stroke Hero Honda. (A natural descendant of the Super Cub).

Oddly enough, the sterling qualities of the trusted camel are so similar to that of the Hero Honda.

Maintenance is low, the efficiency is high; and likewise, it's a clear case of "fill it, shut it and forget it" for days and days on end.

Of course, unlike the desert version, the Hero Honda is built with comfort and safety in mind; plus of course a vast improvement in the 'looks' department.

All said and done, to 400,000 owners (plus 10,000 being added each month) it's a good thing going.

So you can raise a toast to the Hero Honda CD 100. Or the camel. Either way, a small one should suffice.

(How's that for economy?)

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

HTA 6881

INTRODUCING 8x10 WALL AND FLOOR TILES FROM KAJARIA

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

in collaboration with
TODAGRES Spain

12x12 8x10 8x8 8x4
SIZES AVAILABLE

Kajaria
PERFECT FLOORS AND WALLS
Kajaria Ceramics
C-7, EAST OF KAILASH, NEW DELHI

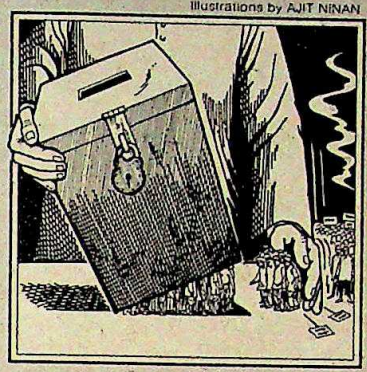
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

• WIDE RANGE OF COLOURS AND DESIGNS • SIMPLE TO LAY (READY FOR USE IN 24 HOURS) • DURABLE • MAINTENANCE FREE • EASY TO CLEAN • COST

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Moving Backward

Illustrations by AJIT NINAN



EVEN as major parts of the country are being ripped apart by the hatreds and insecurities that have erupted in response to the additional 27 per cent quotas for the Other Backward Castes in Central government jobs, the ruling party has opened the floodgates for even more castes to join in the fight for the spoils.

Now poised for entry into the Mandal-cake are Jats, the Marathas of Maharashtra, the Kurmis of Madhya Pradesh, Muslim Gujjars and Mehtars of Uttar Pradesh, the Sainis of Haryana, and the Meo Muslims of Rajasthan. In fact, as many as 80 Janata Dal members of Parliament have signed a memorandum addressed to Prime Minister V.P. Singh asking for inclusion of these additional castes in the OBC category.

Whether these castes are forward or backward or upper or lower is anybody's guess, including Mandal's. And whether the Meos of Rajasthan with their rich cultural traditions and highly evolved intellectual ethos of religious tolerance and fusion, or the Marathas of Maharashtra with their background of fierce individualism, can be dubbed as "socially and culturally deprived"—one key element defining backward in the book according to Mandal—may well be an insult to the discipline of anthropology.

But these doubts have no purchase on the minds of political zealots bent upon the deliberate distortion of history, social science and economic reality in their blind pursuit of vote banks. Unable to contain the Pandora's box of Mandal, these politicians are trying to include even more in the backwards category in order to prevent any erosion of their vote banks by the anti-reservation backlash.

And the consequences will be disastrous. Tamil Nadu is a perfect example where the majority of castes are in the reserved category not because they are necessarily backward but because of the political influence they command.

And even within the reserved category the inter-caste rivalries multiply. In Tamil Nadu, held out as an OBC paradise, meritorious and highly qualified OBC candidates often fail to secure jobs and positions because they have been reserved for another category—MBCs or Most Backward Castes.

With over 3,000 castes already identified by Mandal as OBC, and even more now knocking at the doors of the backward haven, there will be categories within categories within categories—laying the groundwork not just for even more institutionalised discrimination but also for an administrative nightmare.

Denigrating Diplomats

DEMANDS from members of Parliament that the Government investigate charges that the Indian high commissioner in London was remiss in not responding to the legitimate health needs of the late chief justice Sabyasachi Mukharji were not inappropriate. And rather than taking precipitate action, ordering an impartial inquiry in order to determine the facts was the proper course to follow.

But some of the rhetoric emanating in the course of that discussion in Parliament—the description of the high commissioner as a social climber and the categorisation of Indian missions abroad as homes away from home—was gratuitous. An ambassador entertaining guests in the legitimate interests of promoting goodwill between his country and the host nation is not a social climber. And Indian embassies and high commissions are not homes away from home. They are outposts of diplomacy representing and defending the nation's interests abroad.

But unfortunately, Indian VIPs, particularly politicians, have tended to treat them either as *dharamshalas* or outposts for private influence peddling. Embassy officials abroad simply dread the visits of VIP delegations and politicians whether they are travelling officially or privately as senior foreign service officials have to take time off from their diplomatic duties to play the role of valets and chauffeurs.

The VIPs insist on being met at airports and driven into town in staff limousines, private cars owned by embassy staffers, or even automobiles rented at the embassies' expense. They expect their wives to be taken on shopping trips either by foreign service staffers or their wives. They want to be entertained at restaurants and at the homes of officials.

They demand that embassy officials set up appointments for them at short notice with senior members of the host government. They ask for special help in admitting their children into foreign schools and colleges or arranging for green cards. And, of course, all the VIPs want to meet all the prominent Indians settled abroad at parties which the foreign service officers are supposed to host. Deny them any of this and they throw tantrums and threaten retaliation on returning to India.

While proper professional solicitude for the needs of Indian dignitaries travelling abroad is certainly part of an embassy's role, bowing obsequiously to the outrageous demands of politicians and junketing delegates is a travesty of its responsibilities.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

The friendly Man from Eureka Forbes is about to demonstrate the most convenient way to keep your home free of dust and dirt.

One of these days the friendly Eureka Forbes salesman will ring your doorbell and introduce himself with his identity card.

This man inspires confidence – which is only natural. Because he is a member of the largest, most successful sales organisation of its kind in India. Backed by dependable after sales service.

He will introduce modern home products to cope with today's problems – dust, pollution, contaminated water and the lack of domestic help.

He has two unique products to demonstrate: EUROCLEAN all-purpose cleaning system, which is much more than a vacuum cleaner, and AQUAGUARD on-line, water filter-cum-purifier.

EUROCLEAN removes minute specks of dirt and dust in your home effortlessly. Even dust you didn't know existed. AQUAGUARD gives you clear, safe drinking water on tap – at the flick of a switch – even if the raw water has high bacterial contamination.

The Eureka Forbes salesman will show you – in your own home – how these products can bring the advantages of modern cleanliness and hygiene to your family. Making it a cleaner, safer world for you.

You need not wait till his rounds bring him to your doorstep. Do contact Eureka Forbes at any of the following locations for an early visit. Or, write to Eureka Forbes Limited, P.O. Box 936, G.P.O., Bombay 400 001.

Euroclean Mitey Vac Sales & Service Centres are located all over the country. Check the list for the one nearest

BOMBAY*: Head Office: Forbes Building, 4th Floor, Charanjit Rai Marg, Fort. Tel: 2047870 (5 lines). • **DELHI*:** 401/402, Archana Commercial Complex, Greater Kailash Part I. Tel: 6416143, 6463606. • **CALCUTTA*:** Priya, BD-9, 1st Floor, Sector 1, Salt Lake City. Tel: 347799. • **MADRAS*:** Mount Chambers, Block No. A, B, F & G, 1st Floor, 758 Mount Road. Tel: 8250854. • **BANGALORE*:** Parvathi Plaza, 204/205 Richmond Road. Tel: 211738, 213125. • **AGRA:** Shop No. 5, 1st Floor, Block 34/2, Sanjay Place. • **AHMEDABAD*:** 15, Madhuban Society, Opp. Gujarat Vidyapith, Ashram Road. Tel: 446932, 466821, 465320. • **ALLAHABAD:** United Tower, 2nd Floor, 53 Leader Road. • **AURANGABAD:** Eureka House, No. 25/26 Raghuveer Nagar. Tel: 27728. • **BARODA*:** Deep Jyoti, Chickpowadi, 75 Suvarna Puri Society. Tel: 322681, 322289. • **CALICUT:** 1st Floor, Ramlakshmi Bldg., 6/689 Y.M.C.A. Road. Tel: 54498. • **CHANDIGARH*:** Sector 7-C, S.C.O. No. 14, 2nd Floor, Madhya Marg. Tel: 26735. • **COCHIN*:** XXXV/1448-2 Nandnam, Church Landing Road, Ernakulam. Tel: 362752, 365412. • **COIMBATORE*:** No. 61 West T.V. Swamy Road, R.S. Puram. Tel: 43180, 49648. • **DEHRADUN:** 3, Astley Hall, 1st Floor. • **FARIDABAD:** House No. 328, Sector 9. Tel: 8257001. • **GHAZIABAD*:** 41, Ambedkar Marg, 1st and 2nd Floor. Tel: 8713996, 8713473. • **GUWAHATI:** Shanti Niketan, Near Indoor Stadium, Miramar, Panaji. Tel: 6867. • **HUBLI:** C.T.S. No. 4599 B, Ward No. 1, Dharwar Municipal Corpn. No. P.28/1 Ward No. 11, Vidyanagar. Tel: 73291. • **HYDERABAD*:** 10-1-[illegible] Sarojini Devi Road, Secunderabad. Tel: 844128, 840183, 840206. • **JAIPUR*:** 22-23 Centre Market, [illegible] Nagar. Tel: 70205. • **JALANDHAR:** C/o Hotel Gagandeep, G.T. Road, Near Nanoder Theatre. Tel: [illegible] • **JAMMU:** 39 A/C Ground Floor, Gandhi Nagar. Tel: 31530. • **JAMSHEDPUR:** Talwar Building, 39 Bank Road, 1st Floor, 1 Inner Circle Road, C Block, P.O. Bistipur. Tel: 24470, 25351. • **JODHPUR*:** 39 Bank Road, [illegible] Colony, Nehru Park. Tel: 21835. • **KANPUR:** 306/307, 3rd Floor, City Centre, The Mall. • **KOTTAYAM:** [illegible]

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Euroclean The all-purpose cleaning system which is much more than a vacuum cleaner.

Aquaguard On-line, water filter-cum-purifier.

EUREKA FORBES LIMITED Pioneers in modern cleanliness and hygiene.

uard is also available at the locations marked with an asterisk.

Shop, Saraha Timber Buildings, S.H.M.P.O. Nagampadam. Tel: 3634. • **LUCKNOW*:** C-414 Sector B, Aliganj. Tel: 77296. • **LUDHIANA*:** Surya Kiran, 2nd Floor, The Mall. Tel: 26877. • **MADURAI:** 290 Ground & 1st Floor. Tel: 45328. • **MANGALORE*:** 3-33-2951/52 Pintos Lane, Kadri Kambla, 1st Floor. Tel: 32445. • **MYSORE:** 2628 I Main, Padmapathy Road, Jayanagar. Tel: 27124, 31462. Road Commercial Complex, 4th Floor, Ajni Square, Wardha Road. • **NASIK:** Bhagat Apartments, Near Singada Talai. Tel: 77535. • **PATNA*:** No. 103 A/1 Ashiyani, Ground Floor, Rajendra Nagar, Rajendra Nagar Colony. • **PUNE*:** Mubarak Manzil, 2nd Floor, 1 Dhole Patil Road. 695773, 667016. • **QUILON:** No. 4 A.K. Building, Kochu Pilamoodu, Tel: 70159. • **RAJKOT:** Chambers, Ground Floor, Dhebar Road, Opp. Dena Bank. • **RANCHI:** Shyam Lila, 1st Floor, Lalpur Road, P.O. Lalpur. Tel: 27681. • **ROURKELA:** Ground Floor, Flat No. D/237, Koelnagar, Dist. Sundergarh. • **SALEM*:** 19-C, 1st Floor, Saracha College Road. Tel: 69422. • **SILIGURI:** 521 Ward No. 16, Swamiji Sarani, 1st Floor, Hakimpara, P.O. Siliguri, Dist. Darjeeling. • **TRICHY*:** Cauvery, Ground & 1st Floor, 79/80 Raja Colony, Behind Sangam Hotel, Cantonment. Tel: 41867. • **TRIVANDRUM*:** T.C. No. 42/88 Pankaja Bhavan, Kalipankulam Road, Manacaud. Tel: 79570. • **VARANASI:** D-53/97 A-13, Maharana Pratap Nagar, 2nd Floor. • **VIJAYAWADA*:** 33-13-14 Venegellavari Street, Seetarampuram, Ground Floor, Tel: 475964, 476742. • **VISAKHAPATNAM:** 50-50-46 Balayasastri Layout, Seethamadhara West, Opp. Maria Red Convent. Tel: 53009, 53010.

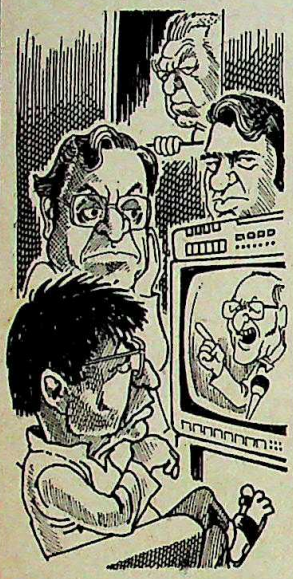
everest/90/EFL/213-BOM-IT R

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Jat Jostling

◆ Jat politicians make stranger and stranger bedfellows. In the current divide Industry Minister Ajit Singh is pitted against Devi Lal, as is former chief minister Bansi



Lal of the Congress(I) who is drawing large crowds in Haryana in preparation for a come-back bid.

So last fortnight, a new Jat equation seemed to be emerging. Ajit Singh, along with two other backers including Ajay Singh, deputy minister for railways, visited the house of Surinder Singh, who is a Congress(I) MP but more importantly happens to be Bansi Lal's son.

The meeting was explained away as a politically innocuous dinner. But the diners did more than just taste Haryanvi cuisine. They viewed video films of Bansi Lal's mammoth rallies in Haryana and even explored the possibility of forming a new axis provided Bansi Lal, now a Congress(I) dissident, could be persuaded to ditch his party. What lent further significance to the anti-Tau dinner conclave was the presence of Jagdeep Dhankar, deputy minister for parliamentary affairs, who had shot to national prominence earlier by offering to quit the Central ministry when the deputy prime minister was stripped of his post by the Raja.

Extension Tension

◆ When Prime Minister V.P. Singh wants to put his foot down, he does so with a vengeance, even over ruling the decisions of his ministers.

Take the case of P.C. Arya, until last fortnight director of Doordarshan's news division. Singh had hinted at meetings over the last few months that he would support a change at that top post. But Information Minister P. Upendra not only kept Arya on, he signed an order extending his term when his retirement came due last month. Then, he went abroad.

In his absence, Singh rejected the extension. The reason: Singh was allegedly miffed about Arya's role in giving the St Kitt's forgery

Cartoons by AJIT NINAN

wide coverage towards the end of the Rajiv regime.

Ghost-Writer

◆ Union Environment Minister Nilamani Routray is hardly known for persuasive penmanship. But his notations on a sensitive file bowled over his colleagues

during a recent cabinet meeting. The issue: his minister of state Maneka Gandhi's proposed plan under which tourist resorts must be constructed at least 500 metres from beach areas to avoid damaging beaches.

Routray, in his own inarticulate way, has been opposed to this and ministers weren't sure whom to support. That was until Routray circulated a note, arguing cogently that the Maneka plan would entail uprooting not only villages but also a massive number of trees—amounting, in effect, to an anti-green policy. Touche! Routray carried the day.

But the real credit should go to Tourism Minister Arun Nehru, a Maneka detractor and supporter of the tourist industry. He was the ghost-writer of the Routray note.

Sardar Antoinette

◆ The pro- and anti-Mandal bandwagons aren't the only vehicles politicians are trying to board for partisan gain. There's also a scramble to cash in on the vacuum in Harijan leadership that hasn't been filled since Jagjivan Ram's death.

Making a bid to inherit that mantle now is former home minister Buta Singh who has fallen out of favour with Rajiv Gandhi. By virtue of being a Mazhabi (or Harijan) Sikh, Singh thinks he can emerge as a competitor to Kanshi Ram whose Bahujan Samaj Party is bidding for the same vote bank.

To impress his party boss about his sway over the downtrodden Singh recently organised a rally of sweepers

at the Boat Club lawns. There came a press conference at a five-star hotel to speak about their problems. When questioned about the appropriateness of the venue, Singh snapped: "Can't the downtrodden have access to a five-star hotel?" In other words, give them cake if they can't have bread. The wags were quick to give him a new title: Sardar Marie Antoinette.

TAIL PIECE

If Iraqi President Saddam Hussein is forced to leave his country after a war with the US, he might try migrating to India. Things might even be better here; he would be a major beneficiary of the Mandal Commission. He sells oil and would therefore qualify for reservations, being a *teli*.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

of the tourist
as the ghost-
outray note.

ntoinette

and anti-
agons aren't
es politicians
ard for parti-
ere's also a
sh in on the
rijan leader-
't been filled
Ram's death.
id to inherit
ow is former
Buta Singh
out of favour
dhi. By virtue
nabi (or Hari-
gh thinks he
a competitor
whose Bahu-
is bidding for
bank.
his party boss
ay over the
ingh recently
y of sweepers

lawns. There
nference at a
speak about
When ques-
he appropri-
venue, Singh
t the down-
cess to a free-
other words,
if they can't
e wags were
n a new title-
ntoinette.

Frost

Manscapes *by* Park Avenue

The Pullover. To set ice on fire. And bask in its embers. To let your warmth flow in a never ending stream of humanity.

Park Avenue by raymonds

Style. It never goes out of fashion.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ARITHMETIC DOESN'T MAKE MUSIC

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Listen to the PCL Experience.

Turnovers. Growth ratios. Industry ranking are dry statistics. Markets don't speak. Customers do. There's no greater asset than Caring to Listen.

When we entered into computers, less than four years ago, several computer companies were entrenched. Large Users already bagged. Installations in place.

For PCL to venture in with a non-exclusive offering such as a PC was seen as disastrous by industry watchers.

Caring to listen has proven otherwise. Today, PCL installations dot the country. Some of the largest public & private sector organisations have now moved to us.

What's of even greater significance is, in the last three years we've nurtured numerous 'First Time Users', scattered from as far as Bhuj to Dibrugarh and Jammu to Tirunelvelli.

Interfacing with such diversity has been difficult. Keeping 10,000 far-flung customers satisfied means patience, care, time. But at the end of it all there's rich dividends—long standing relationships built with our users. Relationships built on honest, sincere service. Trust. Commitment.

In all this what's been most meaningful to us is going beyond the workaday and just being a good friend. To every customer, be he worth a few thousands or multicrore. The relationship is not one of 'business arithmetic' but sharing, guiding, growing.

Today, from PCs we've grown to minicomputers, 386 & 486 based machines, workstations, LANs. And more. We've also entered into Software development; its marketing and exports.

Our tie-ups span global leaders such as SUN, Novell, Ingres, Lotus and WordPerfect. 14 months ago we didn't have any one of these names.

This year our customers will make us a Rs.120 crore company. The very first computer company in the country to cross the Rs.100 crore mark. In just four years.

PCL. India's fastest growing computer company rushing headlong to the top. Yes we are, but is that our bottom-line? Going beyond customer satisfaction to 'customer happiness', that's our mission.

That's the resounding crescendo.
And that we believe is music to anyone's ears!

PCL

GOOD PEOPLE. GOOD COMPUTERS.

everest/d90/PCL/289

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

COME HOME TO
WARM INVITING

Find yourself warmly received.
A cup of your favourite tea while you lounge in the lobby.
A soft, white bathrobe. And personal toiletry.
Gourmet cuisine to choose from.
A good book to read in the Business Centre. And, that liqueur so thoughtfully tucked away in the mini-bar...
Little things like these make you feel you've come home.

Taj Bengal
Calcutta India

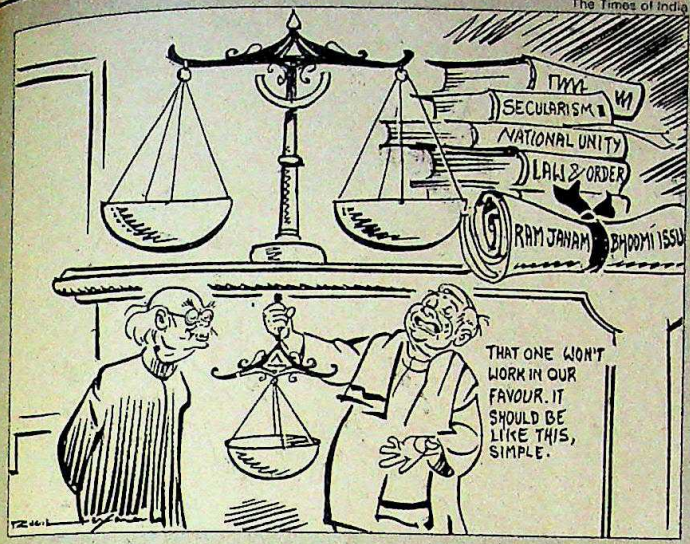
A whole new experience

THE TAJ GROUP OF HOTELS

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eG

The Times of India



• *You must tell your MP and MLA to resign. If they don't agree, douse them with kerosene and set them on fire.* ■ MAHENDRA SINGH TIKAIT, BKU chief, exhorting students at the Boat Club rally in New Delhi

• *V.P. Singh has put the entire country to flames just for 40,000 jobs.*
■ BALRAM JAKHAR, former Lok Sabha Speaker

• *In a democracy, any problem can be settled by talks and not at gunpoint.*
■ MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED, Union home minister, in *The Hindustan Times*

• *Five hundred years hence, people will worship V.P. Singh and me.*
■ RAM VILAS PASWAN, Union minister for labour and welfare, on the decision to implement the Mandal report, in *Probe India*

• *Those who demand economic criteria want OBCs to remain* chaprasis *forever.*
■ SHARAD YADAV, Union minister for textiles in *The Sunday Observer*

• *Our agitation was cooling, and if I hadn't made this sacrifice, it would have died out.*
■ RAJEEV GOSWAMI, the first student to attempt self-immolation, in *Time*

• *There is no Janata Dal without Devi Lal and Chandra Shekhar.*
■ OM PRAKASH CHAUTALA in *Free Press Journal*

• *Do you have enough jails to fill the lakhs and crores of Hindus who are going to reach Ayodhya?* ■ VIJAYA RAJE SCINDIA, BJP leader

• *Even the army can't stop the temple work.*
■ JANA KRISHNAMURTHI, BJP vice-president, in *The Times of India*

• *They (the press) will even kill me to make their headlines.*
■ P.T. USHA in *Sportsworld*

• *I'm no expert on women.*
■ M. AZHARUDDIN in *Sportsworld*

• *They should be horse-whipped on the steps of Mandi House.*
■ THAKAZHY SIVASANKARA PILLAI, Jnanpith Award winner, author of *Kayar*, when the teleserial was slotted after prime time, in *The Hindu*

• *I have outgrown the Bombay film-world.* ■ SHABANA AZMI

SEE BETWEEN THE LINES

Even after
you've heard about it all
and read about it all – see it all
on India's first newsmagazine on
video cassette – ***NEWSTRACK***
Press the play button and you're
on the ringside seat –
to people, places, events, issues –
incisively covered like on no
other medium ever before.

▶ **ONLY ON NEWSTRACK** ◀

SPECIAL OFFERS

SINGLE CASSETTE
• Current Issue Rs. 145/- for a single cassette.
• Back Issues Rs. 135/- each.

SUBSCRIPTION
• Annual Rs. 1380/- and a free ***INDIA TODAY YEAR BOOK* 1991*** worth Rs. 275/-.

* This offer is valid upto Dec. 31, 1990. Year Books will be delivered at your given address by the year end or early January 1991.

Mail a DD/Cheque favouring
Living Media India Limited to P.O. Box No.29,
New Delhi – 110 001.

Cheques/ Demand Drafts payable at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras must be MICR only.

For more details contact
Delhi: 3320689. Bombay : 2027867.
Madras : 479163.
Calcutta : 445398. Bangalore : 210834.

Home delivered by courier or Registered Post

India Today Presents
NEWSTRACK
▶ The newsmagazine to watch ◀

MILESTONES/IT/236

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Cartoons By JAYANTO

RECYCLING CHAIN

■ The bicycle is on a come-back drive in the Kashmir Valley. Following a militant organisation's decree that no light motor vehicles—used by the security forces—would ply in the Valley, the Kashmiris have been forced to revert to the common man's mode of transportation.

Thousands of commuters, including traders, businessmen and officials, now cycle to and from their place of work every day. And bicycle manufacturers are naturally having a field-day—the sudden spurt in the demand for bicycles has increased prices manifold.

Ironically, in the face of diminishing oil reserves because of the current Gulf crisis, the ban imposed by the militants could turn out to be a blessing in disguise. Particularly as the Central Government is desperately trying to cut down on fuel consumption throughout the rest of the country. Necessity, after all, is the mother of invention.

BRAYING BUNCH

■ The nation is agitated over the implementation of the Mandal Commission Report. And in a classic example of different strokes for different folks, a unique rally was recently staged in the town of Garhmukteshwar, Uttar Pradesh.

The band of protesting students were accompanied by an extremely vocal and rather unusual group of demonstrators—a bunch of braying donkeys.

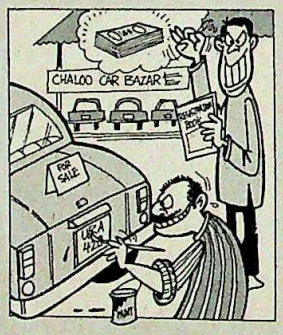
The four-legged protesters kicking off the demonstration had decided to lend their hooves in support of the cause. And so, in an attempt to shoulder their share of the burden of responsibility, they proudly trotted along with the agitators. The donkeys also bore signs around their necks, identifying them as either V.P. Singh, Ram Vilas Paswan or Sharad Yadav.

These donkeys, obviously not content with being silent spectators, proved that their bray was definitely worse than their bite.

AUTO STEAL

■ It's getting more and more expensive to own a vehicle these days. But where there's a will, there's a way—as was proved by two youths from Punjab in the capital last month.

Their *modus operandi* was complicated but it helped circumvent mundane things like paying for the vehicles. First they would borrow a car from a friend or neighbour, note down the engine and chassis number, and on forged letterheads of automobile companies apply for a new registration number.



Then with the key they had duplicated, the car would be stolen, the new number plates attached and the car disposed of—at a whopping profit. Often, the two would claim insurance for the stolen car, re-steal it and claim insurance again.

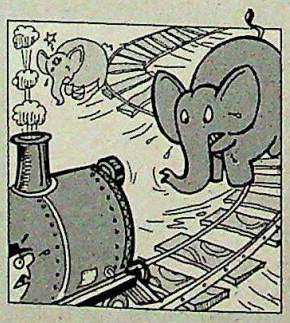
Commendable ingenuity! But alas, not appreciated by the city police. They threw a spanner in the works and drove the two off to the nearest jail.

ROGUE REVOLT

■ Elephants never forget and it appears, often don't forgive. This was amply illustrated late last month, in the forests of Madras.

It all began when an elephant calf playing on a rail track was fatally knocked down by a speeding train.

The irate tuskers and grieving parents—like their human counterparts—decided to stage a *chakka jam* of their own. So an angry mob of about 40 rogue elephants blocked the tracks between Kallar and Hill Grove stations on the Mettupalayam-Udhagamandalam line in Tamil Nadu. Whenever a train appeared they would advance menacingly towards it with their tusks and trunks raised very threateningly forcing the trains to chug reluctantly backwards.



It took several hours for man to get the better of the animals and clear the railway tracks.

RISHI GORBACHEV

■ The Soviets are not the only people to have a Gorbachev in their midst. Now there exists a *desi* Gorbachev as well.

A couple in the capital, blessed with a visit by the stork—obviously inspired by *glasnost*—early last month, decided to name their new-born son after the Soviet President.

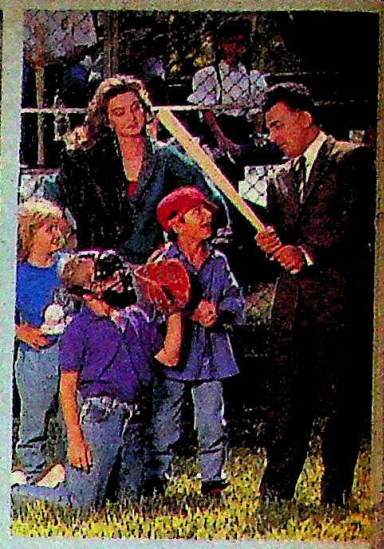
Nevertheless, while in India do as Indians do. So the baby was christened 'Rishi Bhardwaj Gorbachev' amid the chanting of Sanskrit hymns.

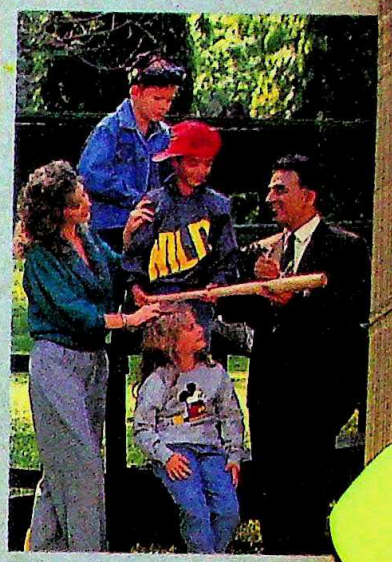
The young Gorbachev, however, has already been subjected to the Indian penchant for shortening names and shall fondly be called 'Gorby' by the proud mama and papa.

Whether this couple's act will further strengthen Indo-Soviet ties remains to be seen, but they can certainly be credited with practising *perestroika*.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri





• NUOVO LOOK • TREND SETTER • MATCH MAKER SATINS • HI FASHIONS SUITINGS

Woolmark

HI-COMFORT WOOL

dinesh

THE CHOICE OF LEADING FASHION HOUSES. INTERNATIONALLY

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

LICENSED DEALERS: CALCUTTA: B. P. TRADERS • J. S. MOHAMMEDALI • SHREYANS • JAMSHEDPUR: PARADISE FABRICS • TEXTILE HOUSE • RANCHI: KASHMIR VASTRALAYA • R. C. FIRAYALAL & CO. • VED TEXTILES • VIJAYKUMAR & BROS.

(IT/4)

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

INTRODUCING VOLT

Voltas.

ew Volt

eautiful

locking

he cond

he cool

door unit

efficient

No ho

ir condi

urn on t

No rattli

No contem

DUCTAB

VO

Appli

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

DUCTABLE SPLITS

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Voltas. The leaders in air conditioning have made yet another major breakthrough. With the new Voltas Ductable Split. ▼ An air conditioner so advanced, it blends beautifully with your plush decor. Without breaking your windows. Without blocking your view. Simply because in the new Voltas Ductable Split,

the condensing unit is placed outside the room. While the cool air is directed into the room from multiple indoor units through matching grilles. ▼ Which ensure efficient, uniform air flow. ▼ And better cooling. ▼ No hot spots. No freezing corners. ▼ Just like central air conditioning. And like central air conditioning just turn on the remote switch and all you will hear is pin drop silence. ▼ No vibrations. No rattling. ▼ The Voltas Ductable Split. ▼ An air conditioner so advanced ... so contemporary ... so much a part of your lifestyle.

NOW A SPLIT AIR CONDITIONER SO ADVANCED, IT HAS THE LOOK, FEEL AND SOUND OF CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING.

VOLTAS

DUCTABLE SPLIT AIR CONDITIONERS **THE FINE ART OF CLIMATE CONTROL**

VOLTAS LIMITED
Appliances Business Group 19, J.N. Heredia Marg, Ballard Estate, Bombay 400 038. Phone: 2618131.

ULKA-13511

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

POWER MATTERS. BUT SAFETY MATTERS MORE IN THE OPERATION OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS.

After commissioning, a nuclear power plant is declared "commercial" or "in-service", thus becoming a full-fledged power station to supply electrical power to the grid, at an approved tariff. Throughout its entire service life of 25 to 40 years, its performance is measured in terms of capacity factors (CF), i.e., the actual power output compared to rated output, on monthly or yearly or cumulative (lifetime) bases. But, most important is the criterion of how safely the plant operates, with respect to the radiation exposure to occupational workers (individual and collective), members of public and the environment.

Ensuring continuous cooling of reactor fuel and maintaining integrity of five successive barriers between radioactivity in fuel and the public, are safety requirements of the highest concern constantly achieved by specially licensed plant operators, strictly adhering to "Technical Specifications" issued by the Regulatory Body which reviews their compliance regularly.

Global excellence in nuclear power plant operations.

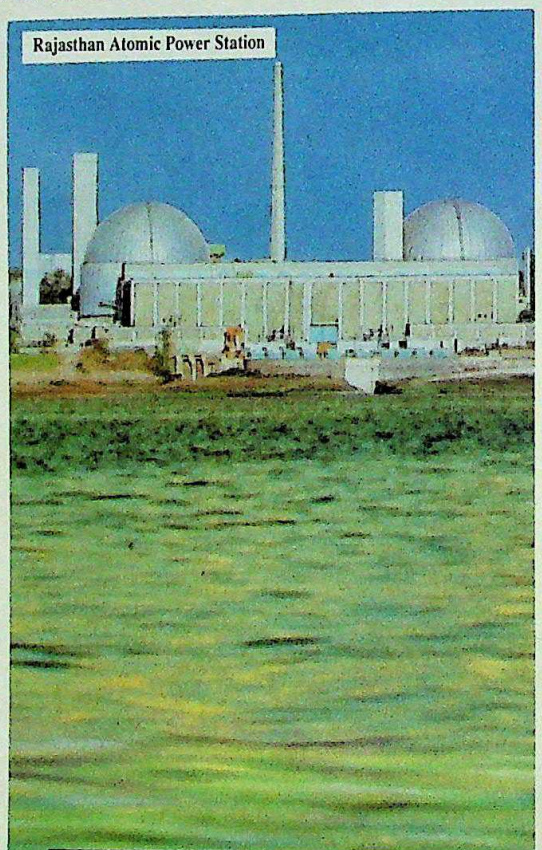
Generally, nuclear power plants maintain high capacity and operating factors. During 1989, the top ten units in the world, achieved a cumulative capacity factor (CCF) of 91% to 86% with Canadian PHWRs ranking second to fifth: Point Lepreau (89.6%), Pickering-7 (88.2%), Pickering-8 (88%) and Bruce-8 (87.1%). On the whole, 37% of the plants recorded a CCF of over 75%; 44% showed a CCF of 50-75%; 13% touched a CCF of 25-50% and the balance 6% indicated a CCF of less than 25%.

As regards radiation exposure, the annual collective doses recorded per reactor are typically highest for Boiling Water Reactors (BWR), followed by Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWR) and Gas Cooled Reactors (GCR). Yet, throughout the 5000 or so reactor-years experience with civil nuclear power plants the world over, there has been no significant radiological impact either on occupational workers, members of public or the environment, except in the case of the Chernobyl accident, which will be reviewed later in this series.

Indian experience in nuclear power plant operations.

The Tarapur Atomic Power Station (TAPS), the first nuclear power plant in India, has been operating satisfactorily for twenty-one years. Recently, it has been re-rated from 210MWe to 160MWe, because of the unavailability of secondary steam generators. The Rajasthan Atomic Power Station (RAPS), the first PHWR in India has been in service for 17 years. Virtually a prototype, leaks in its south endshield in 1981, caused shutdowns lasting 4 to 5 years. But, since August 1987, its operations were resumed at 50% of full power. RAPS-2 which became "commercial" in April 1981 has been operating fairly well. The Madras Atomic Power Station (MAPS) is the first totally indigenous plant. Unit 1 since January 1984 and Unit 2 since March 1986 were performing very well. But in 1989, both units suffered several months outages, due to damage to moderator inlet diffusers. With temporary repairs carried out, at present, the units are operating at 75% of full power, pending further repairs to restore full power. Overall safety record at all power stations has been excellent.

The in-service lifetime annual average of outages, as of May 1990, for various units is: 9 for TAPS-1, 9 for TAPS-2, 14 for RAPS-1, 14 for RAPS-2, 18 for MAPS-1 and 21 for MAPS-2, bringing the annual average for outages in nuclear power plants to 14. In comparison, the all India thermal power plant figure of 8,000 outages in a year (1987-88) for 250 units works out to an average of 32 outages per year per unit, which is more than double the average of nuclear power plants.


Rajasthan Atomic Power Station

OPERATING PERFORMANCE OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS

Nuclear Power Plant	Cumulative (lifetime) capacity factors (%) as of Dec. '89	Cumulative Electricity generation (Terra-Watt-hrs) as of Dec. '89	Annual Collective Dose per Reactor (Man-Rem)
GLOBAL			(1980-85 average)
PWR	65.4	8348.6	590 (USA)
BWR	61.9	3954.3	1000 (USA)
PHWR	71.0	906.0	131 (Canada)
Magnox (GCR)	60.2	851.3	
AGR	41.6	233.3	90 (UK)
INDIAN			(lifetime) average as of Dec.'89
TAPS-1 (BWR)	48.1	18.4	
TAPS-2 (BWR)	50.4	18.9	1615
RAPS-1 (PHWR)	24.1	7.5	
RAPS-2 (PHWR)	54.0	9.5	806
MAPS-1 (PHWR)	47.8	6.4	
MAPS-2 (PHWR)	39.3	3.5	592

Terra-Watt-hour = 1000 Million Kilo-Watt-hours

There is an obvious need to improve on capacity factors and reduce collective radiation doses and outages in Indian reactors. This is being actively pursued.

NPC. Committed to meeting the nation's energy needs.

To achieve a better standard of living today and to conserve our dwindling energy reserves for future generations, we would need an optimal mix of thermal, hydel and nuclear sources for fuelling India's growth needs. That's why NPC has just one major overriding goal: To harness the power of the atom. To help India achieve self-sufficiency in power generation for generations to come.

NPC. Fuelling a powerful future.

Want to know more about nuclear power? Send your queries to:

NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)

Centre No. 1, 16th & 20th Floor,
World Trade Centre, Cuffe Parade,
Bombay-400 005.

Issued for public information by the Directorate of Environment and Public Awareness – Nuclear Power Corporation.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

CONTOUR-NPC

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

movement in order to embarrass the pro-reservation Janata Dal chief minister. In Bihar, the many anti-reservation student bodies are now broadly divided into three factions: pro-Jagannath Mishra, anti-Jagannath Mishra and a third force, the Rashtriya Aaraksha Virodhi Morcha which is also affiliated to some Congress(I) leaders. Morcha President Sailesh Kumar Zad says: "After all these Congressmen are also fighting for the cause of the students."

BUT the Congress(I) interference has also created confusion, demoralised many students and given a handle to Chief Minister Laloo Prasad Yadav to launch a crackdown and mobilise the pro-reservationists—splintering the already shapeless agitation even further. For instance, some Patna university union leaders had formed the Mandal Commission Virodhi Morcha. But a tussle over the dominance of politicians resulted in a split in the 1001-member group and the floating of a parallel organisation of the same name.

A similar drama is being enacted in Uttar Pradesh where the Congress(I)'s Akbar 'Dumpy' Ahmed and Ashok Bajpai are at the forefront of the students' agitation in Lucknow and Allahabad. But most students still oppose political patronage. Says Yajuvendra Singh, a B.A. student: "Where is the need for political support? We are not fighting elections. To throw stones or organise gheraos you hardly need finances or political support."

The students have indeed achieved considerable success without the aid of politicians. In many instances they have broken through the caste barrier and involved the backwards. Take Sevdutt Dongre, an OBC student from Madhya Pradesh, who is an active participant in the stir. Says he: "I do not want to have the prop of my caste to achieve something in my life. V.P. Singh has announced Mandal for his vote bank. But he will not get our votes."

Such admirable idealism apart, the movement is bereft of the other essentials necessary to sustain an agitation. Precisely because of this the scattered student forces are vulnerable to a complete take-over by the political parties—anxious to cash in on their emotive appeal. And unless some leadership emerges and the student units close ranks, the movement appears destined to peter out or find itself hijacked by the politicians.

—PANKAJ PACHAURI with FARZAND AHMED in Patna and DILIP AWASTHI in Lucknow

SUPREME COURT

Crucial Role

BEGINNING October 25, a five-judge constitution bench of the Supreme Court will hear arguments to supplement an avalanche of petitions which challenge the legality of the August 13, 1990 executive memo implementing the recommendations of the Mandal Commission report. The bench will be headed by Chief Justice Ranganath Misra.

SOLI SORABJEE

On October 1 the court granted the petitioners a stay against the Government's decision, thereby cooling the orgy of violence of the preceding weeks. "When I saw a picture of that boy (Rajeev Goswami) in flames I felt the court must do something," says K.K. Venugopal, who moved the court for the stay. "I argued not only on the issue of unconstitutionality, but also on the issue of the youngsters' death and maimings."

Whichever way the Supreme Court decides the Mandal issue, peace will be disturbed.

K.K. VENUGOPAL

Petitions against the Mandal recommendations throughout the country have been transferred to the Supreme Court, "for a swifter, more comprehensive hearing on the issue," says Gopal Subramaniam, counsel for one of the earliest petitioners, Sanjeev Gupta and Anand Misra of St Stephen's College. They plead that the report be struck down because it "suffers from non-application of mind and is not based on any cogent material".

Counsel against the Mandal Commission said they would highlight four issues:

► There was inherent bias and "malice in law" in the composition of the commission; four of the five members belonged to the OBCs and one to the SC.

► The methodology to identify the 3,743 OBCs was arbitrary, the last caste census being in 1931.

► 'Caste' cannot be equated with 'class'.

► The caste system is peculiar to Hinduism and cannot be applied to other religions.

The anti-Mandal advocates cite previous Supreme Court rulings such as the M.R. Balaji case (which said caste cannot be the sole or dominant test for determining social backwardness) or the R. Chitralekha case (which said that under no circumstances could 'class' be equated with 'caste').

Government counsel, led by Attorney General Soli Sorabjee, however, point out that the Supreme Court has not been consistent in past rulings; for example, in the Periakaruppan case, the court said "a caste has always been recognised as a class".

Lawyers feel while the Supreme Court is unlikely to reject the Government's decision outright, it may ask the Government to identify a means test. The options before the court are: give a permanent stay on the report till the petitions are heard and decided; or, hear the case in continuous sittings and deliver the verdict before closing for the winter vacations; or, withdraw the stay and give a date for an early hearing. Given the complicated judicial processes in India, the case may take from a few months to some years to be decided—unless unusual circumstances intervene. But, as Venugopal says, the matter will not end with the verdict. Emotions have been raised, and whichever way the decision goes, peace will be disturbed.

—NILOVA ROY CHAUDHARY

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

JANATA DAL

PULLING APART

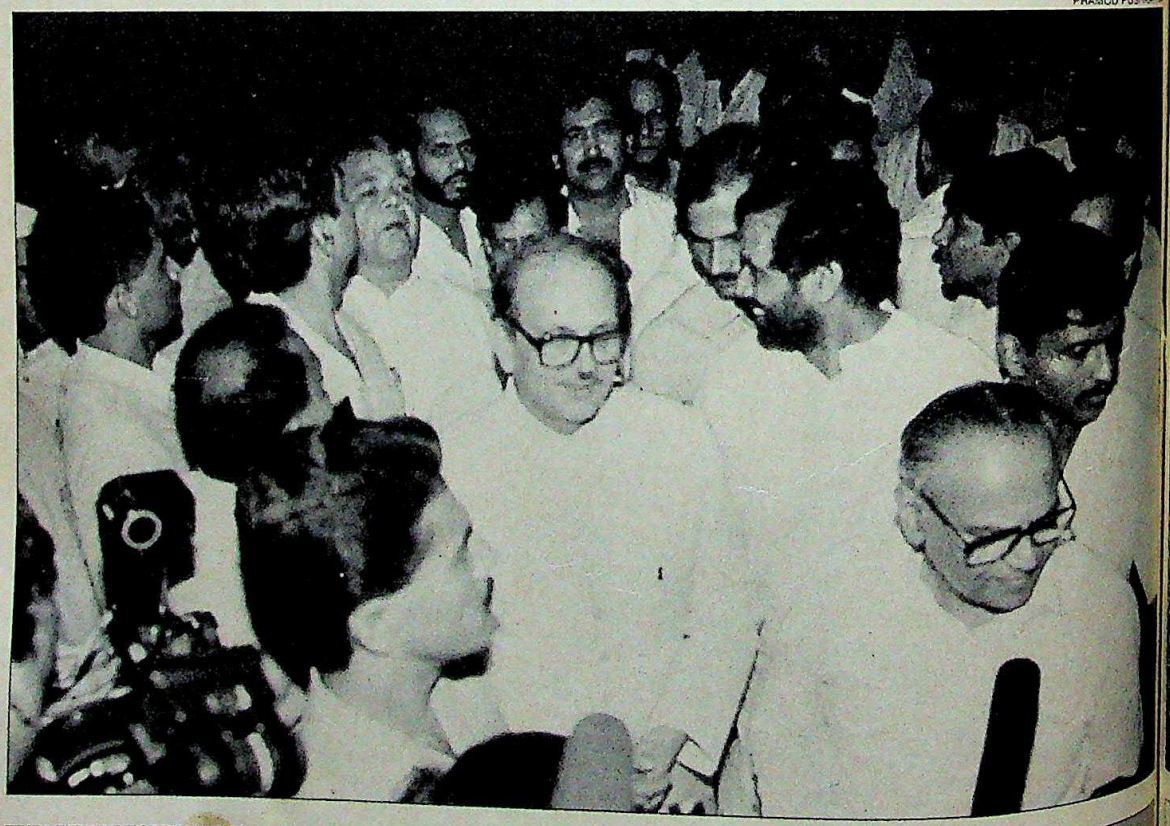
By PRABHU CHAWLA

FOR the National Front Government no news is good news. Ever since its formation, crisis after crisis has exploded in its face forcing it to scramble for survival. Devi Lal, Chandra Shekhar, Om Prakash Chautala, Ayodhya, rising prices, its cup of woe has flowed over. And last fortnight even as it completed 10 months in office, speculation exploded again over its durability. Permutations were bandied about, and questions raised. Would the rebels be able to muster the magic figure of 47 MPs, split the Janata Dal and, by virtue of being a third of the party's strength, escape the provisions of the anti-defection law? Or would they rustle together 70 MPs, an absolute majority in the party, eject V.P. Singh and form a government on their own? Or would they break away and support the formation of a Congress(I) government?

All these posers were the outcome of an open revolt by 29 Janata Dal MPs, and of Rajiv Gandhi's call to the Janata Dal to elect a new leader if it wanted his party's support. With his government poised on a wafer-thin majority V.P. Singh has been under siege and staggering from crisis to crisis. And last fortnight saw a repetition of history: his government was yet again on the brink of collapse. But once more V.P. Singh, through his machiavellian manoeuvrings, managed to survive. Yet it was clear that this time the warnings had become louder; and that the numbers game in the 204-member National Front Parliamentary Party (NFPP) had taken a serious turn. For though the immediate threat may have been thwarted, the number of rebels had grown from nine to 22 in the Lok Sabha. In itself that figure was not extraordinarily alarming. But the dissidents were not sitting still. Campaigning openly against Singh and his government's performance, and launching bold plans to mobilise more MPs to their side, the dissidents were claiming that the number of elected representatives on their side would increase before the coming winter session of Parliament.

Even for V.P. Singh, quite accustomed to living a charmed life, teetering on the brink of disaster, it was the most serious crisis so far. But it did not concern him alone. With various factional leaders trying to contract arrangements with MPs and other parties, it was clear that the ruling party was being pulled apart in various directions.

PRAMOD PUSHKARNA



With the open rebellion of many MPs, V.P. Singh is no longer the undisputed leader of his party. More than ever before, his government totters from crisis to crisis.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

THE REVOLT POINTS TO A NEW SHOWDOWN

WHEN the 29 MPs signed the letter demanding the prime minister's resignation for his failure to grapple with important national problems, it became evident that the threat to his leadership was no longer confined to the drawing-rooms of dissidents enjoying the support of Devi Lal and Chandra Shekhar. And even though a day later a few of them withdrew their signatures, it was clear that V.P. Singh's position as undisputed leader of the party had ended. As the battle burst into public view Jaipal Reddy, the party spokesman known for his restraint, took an uncharacteristically defiant line, indicating the gravity of the development. He charged that the rebels were being encouraged by "big-wigs within the party".

Unlike the earlier crises, this time the dissidents were better organised with a solid strategy for toppling Singh. And what gave them added strength was the media which was supportive of Singh when he seemed to be fighting opportunistic party wreckers and enemies, but had now turned on him for his own display of opportunism—particularly the inept handling of the recommendations of the Mandal Commission report.

During past crises the party had been a buffer between the country and the prime minister. But the Mandal blunder threatened to tarnish the Government's image so severely that Singh's detractors decided it was time to stand aside and let him take the flak directly.

What added credibility and significance to the anti-Singh movement in his party was the involvement not just of the Singh baiters but of MPs earlier considered neutral or even pro-Singh.

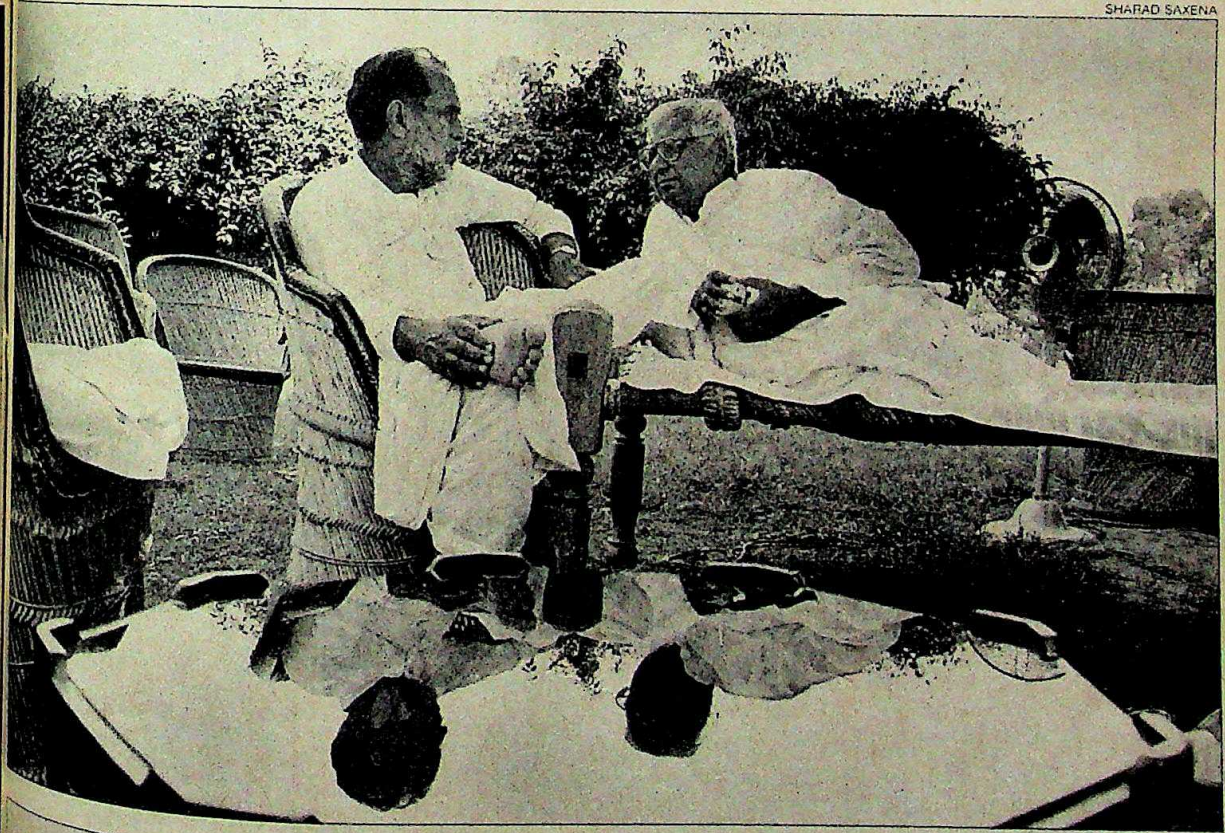
The first concrete move in the drive to oust Singh was a luncheon meeting called by Yashwant Sinha on September 26 at his residence. Two ministers, Maneka Gandhi and Jagdeep Dhanker, attended it. Others included Rajmohan Gandhi, Chand Ram, an MP from Uttar Pradesh, and Ranjit Singh, younger son of Devi Lal. Sinha introduced a draft of a letter that read like a no-confidence motion against the prime minister and sought their approval. Maneka and several others objected to its tone and tenor and told Sinha they would sign a toned-down version which would request the prime minister to convene an urgent meeting of the NFPP. Rajmohan Gandhi—considered close to the prime minister—drafted it and 10 MPs signed it.

An undeterred Sinha then began another round of mobilising more MPs against the prime minister who had agreed to schedule an NFPP meeting on September 30. On the eve of that meeting, Sinha hosted yet another dinner for a dozen MPs that was followed by a dramatic midnight press conference at which he dropped a bombshell: 40 MPs, he announced, were going to demand the resignation of the prime minister.

He refused to divulge their names but released copies of a strongly-worded charge-sheet against the prime minister, condemning him for his mishandling of the Mandal Commission issue, prices, Punjab, and Kashmir.

The NFPP meeting that began the next day opened on a note of eerie silence. Participants were expecting

SHARAD SAXENA



For the first time since the National Front came to power, Chandra Shekhar and Devi Lal have openly joined forces against V.P. Singh in a bid to capture the Government.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

SHARAD SAXENA

CHAND RAM

YASHWANT SINHA

PRAMOD PUSHKARNA

HARMOHAN DHAWAN

Earlier the hardcore dissidents in the party were estimated at nine but have now expanded three-fold and efforts are afoot to rope in more MPs.

fireworks in the aftermath of the Sinha announcement the previous night, but not a voice was raised from among the 136 Janata Dal MPs gathered there to demand Singh's resignation. Chandra Shekhar didn't attend. Devi Lal came late and left the hall five minutes after handing over his letter of resignation from Parliament to the prime minister. Though Sinha may have lost out in the numbers game, he made a fiery speech.

But Singh's supporters went on the offensive. Bhabani Shankar Hota, an MP from Orissa, moved a resolution expressing confidence in the prime minister. Sinha and his supporters, now in a hopeless minority, walked out. Later in the evening, Harmohan Dhawan of the Chandra Shekhar camp resigned from the secretaryship of the NFPP. And Chandra Shekhar himself called the confidence vote "a hoax".

As the lobbying and counter-lobbying continued, Sinha was ultimately able to muster the signatures of 29 MPs seeking Singh's ouster; most of them belong to the Chandra Shekhar and Devi Lal camps.

Later Sinha remarked: "The main thing is that we were able to make our point." Singh's supporters, on the contrary, believe that they were able to call the rebel's bluff with no damage to Singh or the party. Says Hota: "He has proved almost a dozen times that he enjoys the confidence of the party."

This confidence could be an exaggeration. What is undeniable is that the group of hardcore anti-Singh MPs estimated to be no more than nine has now expanded to nearly thrice that figure. Additionally, while Bihar Chief Minister Laloo Prasad Yadav remained a solid Singh backer, Orissa Chief Minister Biju Patnaik, Gujarat Chief Minister Chimanbhai Patel and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Mulayam Singh Yadav—who among them control about 35 MPs—sat on the fence during the crisis. The aim of the rebels now is to expand their core group by making inroads into the ranks of the fence-sitters. And the prime minister's supporters will work to diminish the strength of the core group. By any other name this is a show-down.

LACK OF MEAL-TICKETS SPURS DISENCHANTMENT

ONE reason for the mounting alienation within the party, a phenomenon that has pitted MPs against ministers and ministers and partymen against the prime minister, can largely be summed up in a single word: patronage.

Whether out of personal compulsions—V.P. Singh's solicitous self-regard for his own image—or whether simply out of a desire not to get involved in some of the necessary sleaze all politicians have to step in, Singh has scrupulously avoided becoming involved in the distribution of spoils.

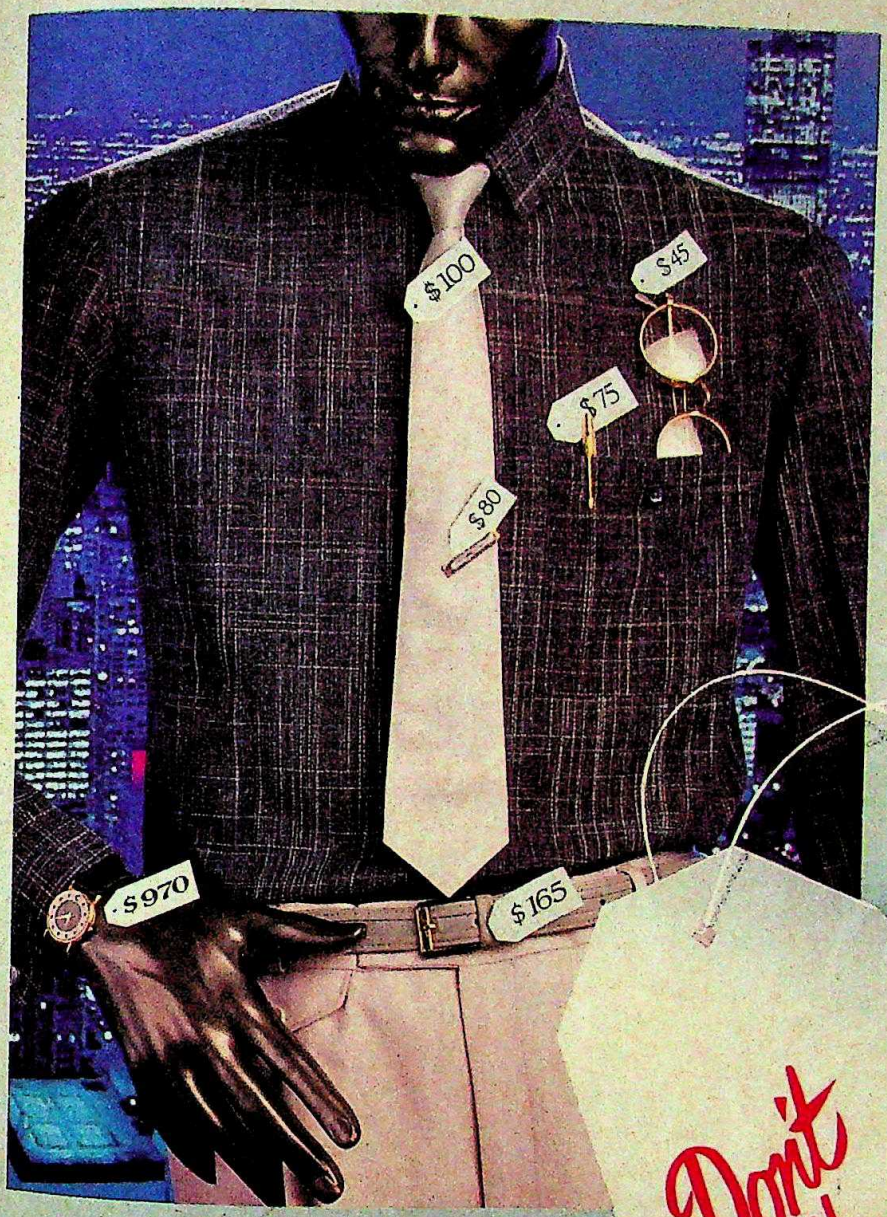
In one of his first value-based instructions to his staff, Singh decreed that no official from his office would approach any government department on behalf of any party MP seeking a favour. And no other party official, not even the President, has been authorised to perform this function which has traditionally been taken for granted by elected representatives. After all, most of them are former Congressmen used to picking up the phone and calling an appropriate official in the Prime Minister's Office for a fix, a job for a nephew, a benami gas agency, a membership for a friend in a cooperative society.

So it's the old meal-ticket frustration that has now begun to catch up. Even though 38 out of a total of 204 National Front MPs have been accommodated in the ministry, the rest—and add to this list party workers—are still waiting for their share of the crumbs. Even Hota, the unassuming MP from Orissa who moved the resolution reiterating the party's faith in Singh following the outbreak of dissident activity, remarked: "Our workers feel cheated. They worked hard for ensuring victory, they expected a share in power. But now they have to sit at home." Sanjay Singh, Rajya Sabha MP, says in a lighter vein: "The best course open to any leader is to appoint all the MPs as ministers so that there is no dissidence."

But what is even more significant than the dissidence at the top, and a critical destabilising factor, is the palpable discontent among the ranks of middle-level party workers. They hold the entire Janata Dal power structure

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



BLUE CHIP.
Expensive looking, but highly affordable.

Don't pay in Dollars

BLUE CHIP
SHIRTS-TROUSERS

A quality product from
VIP

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ONE SOURCE YOU CAN DEPEND ON

ADD ANOTHER — CROMPTON TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Crompton Telecommunications is the single-source, single-vendor solution for all your communication needs.

From voice, data, text and imaging, our range of products and services, backed by the best technology in the business, add up to your advantage everytime.

It's an advantage that's worked for Citibank, ONGC, Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Leela Kempinski, and a host of other clients.

And you will appreciate the efficiency of application specific EPABX's made in collaboration with OKI of Japan, versatile Data Communication Terminals made with Qwint Data Inc., USA and advanced multi-feature phones made in technical collaboration with Siemens, AG.,West Germany.

So whether your needs begin at 16 extensions or require Integrated Office Exchanges upto 7000 ports.

Or you're looking for advanced facilities like Analog and Digital Networks, simultaneous voice and data communications, radio paging, voice-mail, Fax's — we have them all.

From multi-feature telephones to advanced digital multi-key telephones, we have every kind of voice terminal. With ISDN compatible voice-data Networking capabilities.

Our Electronics R&D centres can also help develop specific communication solutions for you.

So whether it is satellite, microwave, Coaxial or optical fibre communication, we'll give you your telecommunication link.

Our after-sales service includes Remote Maintenance, that ensures an on-the-spot diagnosis and response to your problems, backed by an expert Customer Engineering Team.

Our range of Computers and Industrial Electronics products also help us take a comprehensive look at your needs.

That's why we can really talk of one, total, customised communication solution.

Wherever you are, whatever your requirements: if you need a telecommunication company that can offer you the optimal single source solution for today and the future —call Crompton Telecommunications, now.

Yes! I want to know more about Crompton Telecommunications and its single source advantage for my business.

Please have your team call on me.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

Mail to: Crompton Telecommunications
27, Rani Jhansi Road, New Delhi-110 055.
Tel: 514055/514910/737671

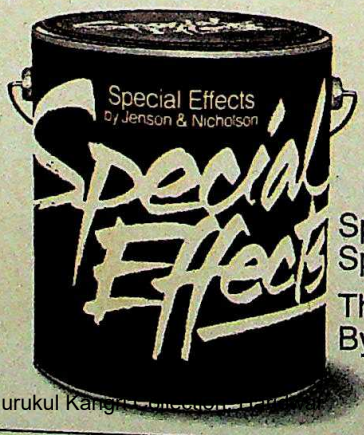
Tel: Bombay—294905. Calcutta—449681/85. Madras—470316.

Crompton Greaves Limited

CROMPTON TELECOMMUNICATIONS. THE RIGHT DECISION.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



Special Effects
Special Wall Finish

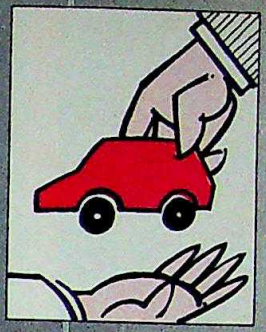
The Masterpiece
By Jenson & Nicholson

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

central and regional, responsible for ignoring their interests.

This incipient revolt came to a boil last month when a huge gathering of party workers from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar met Railway Minister George Fernandes and roundly chastised him for not giving them positions on various railway organisations like the catering committees and regional advisory councils which are still occupied by Congress(I) loyalists. While these are unpaid positions, they carry considerable clout—dispensing of out-of-turn reservations, influencing the award of civilian contracts and allotment of catering services. And the take from speed money and payola is considerable.



Janata Dal workers are miffed that the Government has refused to hand them lucrative Maruti agencies.

INDIAN Railways is not the only organisation which can distribute largesse. Another lucrative and prestigious department is communications. There are over 50 telephone advisory committees all over the country whose membership varies from 15 to 100. Again, most of the committees are still stacked with nominees of the previous government. Membership in a telephone advisory committee means a free phone for every member and the privilege of being allowed to provide 10 out-of-turn phone allotments to anybody registered for a new line. An irregular allotment commands a fee of up to Rs 20,000. Says Santosh Bharatiya, Janata Dal MP: "These are small favours, but it gives the party worker a sense of belonging to the Government."

In perfecting and expanding this lucrative spoils system, the Congress(I) had also allowed various MPs to allot a certain quota of high quality coal to steel furnace owners and other industries through the Energy Ministry. A single rake carries a premium of more than Rs 1 lakh. And traditionally, all energy ministers have accepted the party MPs' recommendations for these out-of-turn allotments. It's a mutual back-scratch: the MP or his middleman collects the premium while his financiers in the trade succeed in getting the precious commodity.

But because of V.P. Singh's strong anti-patronage signals to the party, Energy Minister Arif Mohammed Khan was loath to accommodate such requests from party MPs. That was until June when there was a virtual revolt from some powerful MPs who managed to squeeze this traditional concession out of Khan. Even so, the practice is on a much smaller scale than in the past which has left other powerful favour-seekers disgruntled.

The refusal of the Government to pack the boards of banks with its own workers has alienated some leaders.

Fierce intra-party competition has also broken out among influential partymen for positions on the management boards of the 250-odd Central Government undertakings. Resentment also stems from the fact that most of the plum posts in government and semi-government agencies like NAFED were hogged by Devi Lal's backers to the exclusion of candidates backed by other party MPs. Devi Lal may be out of the Government but removing his men from these posts would mean incurring the wrath of pro-Devi Lal MPs who are backing the Government only because of the plum positions they hold.

Finance Minister Madhu Dandavate, in fact, faced the wrath of senior cabinet ministers who grilled him for his ministry's failure to reconstitute the boards of 20 nationalised banks, which were still filled with Congress(I) politicians including former ministers, MPs and MLAs. A list of over 5,000 aspirants was prepared by the ministry a few months ago but no follow-up action was taken.

Even an unlikely organisation such as the Law Ministry is not free of pressures for patronage. MPs have been angrily denouncing Law Minister Dinesh Goswami for his failure to accommodate Janata Dal sympathisers in the panel of Central Government advocates in the Supreme Court and various high courts.

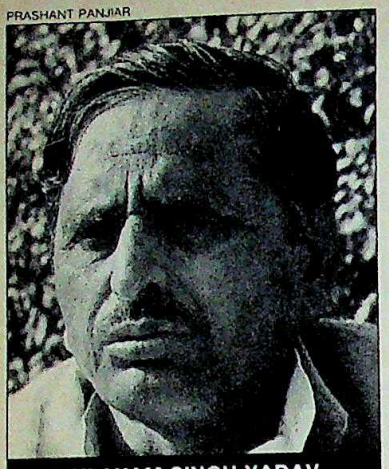
A senior government official says that if the Janata Dal Government really wanted to, it could accommodate at least 30,000 party workers in part-time or full-time jobs. But the internal bickerings and pressure groups within the party itself have simply paralysed the Government in this netherworld of the spoils system. And V.P. Singh, who refuses to interfere, has become the lightning rod for the spreading resentment.

Many MPs are unhappy that, unlike earlier, the Energy Ministry is refusing them profitable coal allotments.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

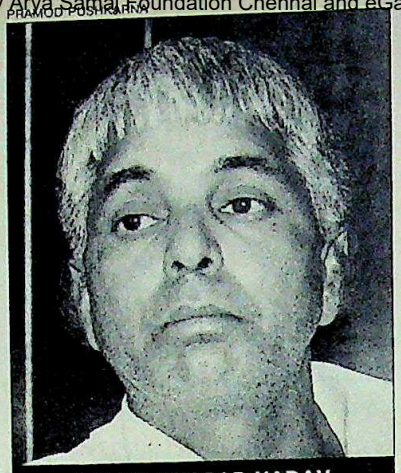
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

PRASHANT PANJIAR



MULAYAM SINGH YADAV

PRAMOD PUSHKARNA



LALOO PRASAD YADAV

PRASHANT PANJIAR

CHIMANBHAI PATEL

Except for Laloo Prasad Yadav who is firmly behind V.P. Singh, the others are sitting on the fence and being wooed by the rebels, seeking to multiply their ranks.

SINGH HAS DUG IN HIS HEELS TO SURVIVE

LAST fortnight, when Singh refused to oblige his detractors by quitting office, he was acting quite contrary to character. His enigmatic approach to issues and his track record so far had indicated that he would rather quit than be thrown out, rather be a martyr than fight back. That new-found confidence, that sudden stubbornness was born of cold political arithmetic. For with the implementation of the Mandal Commission report, Singh had assured himself of the solid backing of almost all the backward caste and minority MPs who constitute over three-fourths of the Janata Dal Parliamentary Party. In addition, he also had the total backing of Ajit Singh and Laloo Prasad Yadav, the half-hearted support of Chimanbhai Patel, and substantial support from MPs in other parties as well. Says Janata Dal President S.R. Bommai: "I don't see him being replaced. Not because he is indispensable but because there is no other person who enjoys such support from all the factions."

But while Singh is undoubtedly in control now, the possibility of his being thrown out by the NFPP some time in the future can't be ruled out altogether. For the party, Singh's primary asset is his public image, his vote-harnessing ability. The anti-Mandal Commission agitation—which is far from over—represents a sharp undermining of that public standing. And his detractors hope that Singh will make more tactical mistakes in the future, with a further erosion in popularity. On Punjab and Kashmir too, Singh is under siege. Declares Dhawan: "We are not against the Mandal Commission or reservations. But we feel that the prime minister has failed on every front. As a torch-bearer of value-based politics he should resign."

In addition, with oil prices shooting up, Singh will have to oversee India's worst-ever foreign exchange crisis and possible double-digit inflation, hardly ingredients for popularity. To top it all, the looming confrontation over the Babri Masjid-Ram Janmabhoomi controversy and the spate of communal riots will certainly play havoc with his popular support.

The BJP or the CPI(M) too can pull the rug from under the prime minister's feet. The BJP has slightly reversed its earlier policy of total support to Singh and on the Ayodhya issue, it is in open confrontation with him, though it has not specifically stated that it will support any other leader.

The most serious threat to Singh still comes from within the Janata Dal itself. If political equations suddenly change, and leaders like Ajit Singh and Mulayam Singh Yadav decide to throw their weight against the prime minister, his ouster would be a distinct possibility. Whether Singh quits on his own or is thrown out hinges entirely on his capacity to stem the rot within the Government and improve his personal image. If he does, his detractors would have to think twice before jettisoning him. If he doesn't, he might decide to quit on his own. So far his performance has been mediocre if not disastrous, and if he continues to slip in popularity, not all his caste calculations can keep him in office. And he himself seems to recognise the fact. His eroding moral authority and credibility cannot be compensated by numbers games and balancing acts. For the real crisis is a crisis of confidence—a loss of faith and evaporation of goodwill.

SINGH HAS LAUNCHED A COUNTER-OFFENSIVE

PUSHED into a corner by the anti-Mandal agitation and under attack from a section of his own party, V.P. Singh last fortnight gave the first hint that he was not entirely a wimp. He has, his advisers say, finalised a strategy to hit back at his opponents.

The outlines of the strategy are clear:

- ► Mobilise backward castes and Muslims.
- ► Encourage dissidence in each party along caste lines.
- ► Effect a temporary patch-up with detractors within the party.
- ► Announce a massive employment package for the youth.
- ► Launch an attack on economic offenders and big business houses who he believes are aiding dissidence.

The first stage of that strategy was set rolling last fortnight when he addressed a two-lakh-strong pro-reservation rally in Patna *(see box)*. Singh has now directed his supporters to organise more public meetings; over 50 MPs have

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

PATNA RALLY

Launching a Caste War

IT was billed as a *sadbhavana* (harmony) meeting. It was anything but that. For the vitriol and warlike caste-mongering that spewed from the mouths of speaker after speaker at Patna's Gandhi Maidan on October 8 where over 2 lakh people had gathered to hear the prime minister and his cabinet colleagues were nothing short of a call to arms.

V.P. Singh's own speech was low on rhetoric in comparison to those of Industry Minister Ajit Singh, Textiles Minister Sharad Yadav, Minister of State for Home Affairs Subodh Kant Sahay, and Welfare Minister Ram Vilas Paswan.

The cutting edge of his presentation was its populist challenge: "Instead of running after MAs and BAs it is better for the youth to study the pain and suffering of the poor." Forty per cent of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha seats should be reserved for the poor. Gas and fertiliser agencies, a preserve of the privileged, should be distributed among the poor.

But the biggest applause he drew was when he dramatically intoned: "I agree I can be removed as prime minister. That my government can be removed. They can remove me from Delhi but they cannot remove me from the doorsteps of the poor." This was clearly a reference to his shaky position in the Janata Dal as well as the battering the party had taken in the aftermath of the Mandal report.

What gave the rally a chilling dimension was not just the speeches that had preceded Singh's but the conversion of Patna into a veritable armed camp of security men and paramilitary forces. Even more ominous was the blatant disregard displayed by the speakers, including cabinet ministers, for the Supreme Court's recent injunction asking pro and anti-Mandal elements to refrain from inciting the public any further.

Chief Minister Laloo Prasad Yadav set the meeting's tone by bellowing: "*Chahe zamin asman main latak jaye, chahe asman zamin par gir jaye, magar Mandal Commission lagoo ho ke rahega. Is par koi samjhauta nahin hoga*" (Even if heaven and earth clash there will be no compromise on the implementation of the Mandal report.)

► Subodh Kant Sahay: "Whoever opposes our *chakra* of social justice will be crushed and wiped out."

► Ajit Singh: "Only the newspapers and some political leaders are opposing the Mandal Commission, as well as English educated people who say Mandal will finish merit. You should prepare to even die for the Mandal recommendations."

► Paswan: "V.P. Singh has changed history. This is a fight of 90 per cent of the oppressed people against the remaining 10 per cent. The servile era of Jagjivan Ram has gone, the militant era of Ram Vilas Paswan is at hand."

It was a no-holds-barred mobilisation of backwards who poured into the state capital shouting: "*Brahmin saala desh chhodo*" (Brahmins, leave the country) and "*Ranganath hoshiyar, Nagnath hoshiyar.*" (Ranganath beware, the cobra king is ready). The "Ranganath" reference was to Ranganath Misra, chief justice of the Supreme Court.

The slogans summed up the mood of the hundreds of thousands of backwards who had trooped in from all directions despite the call for a "Janata curfew," blockade of roads and rails, and a transport strike by anti-Mandal forces. Yet during the rally itself, discipline was strictly maintained. Part of the reason for its success was the unprecedented mobilisation of the entire state machinery, even to the extent of providing transport.

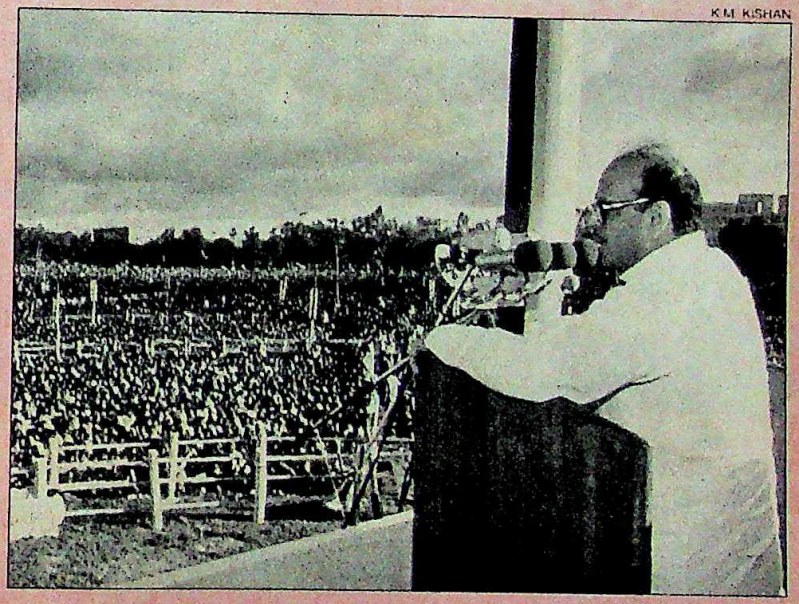
In its aftermath, Bihar is seeing the beginnings of a caste war. Backward castes have already begun attacking and smashing buses belonging to "forwards" and ordering them off the roads. The battle lines are already being drawn between the Yadavs on one side and the Bhumihar-Rajput combine on the other. Even as V.P. Singh was addressing the rally in Patna, a *sadbhavana* rally, an independent MLA—a Yadav leader—and his supporters opened fire at seven places on anti-reservationists killing a constable and a Bhumihar youth. He was later arrested.

The next big "backwards" show is slated for October 27 at Delhi's Boat Club. If the passions aroused in Patna are any indication, the country could be headed for an even more dangerous period of politically abetted violence.

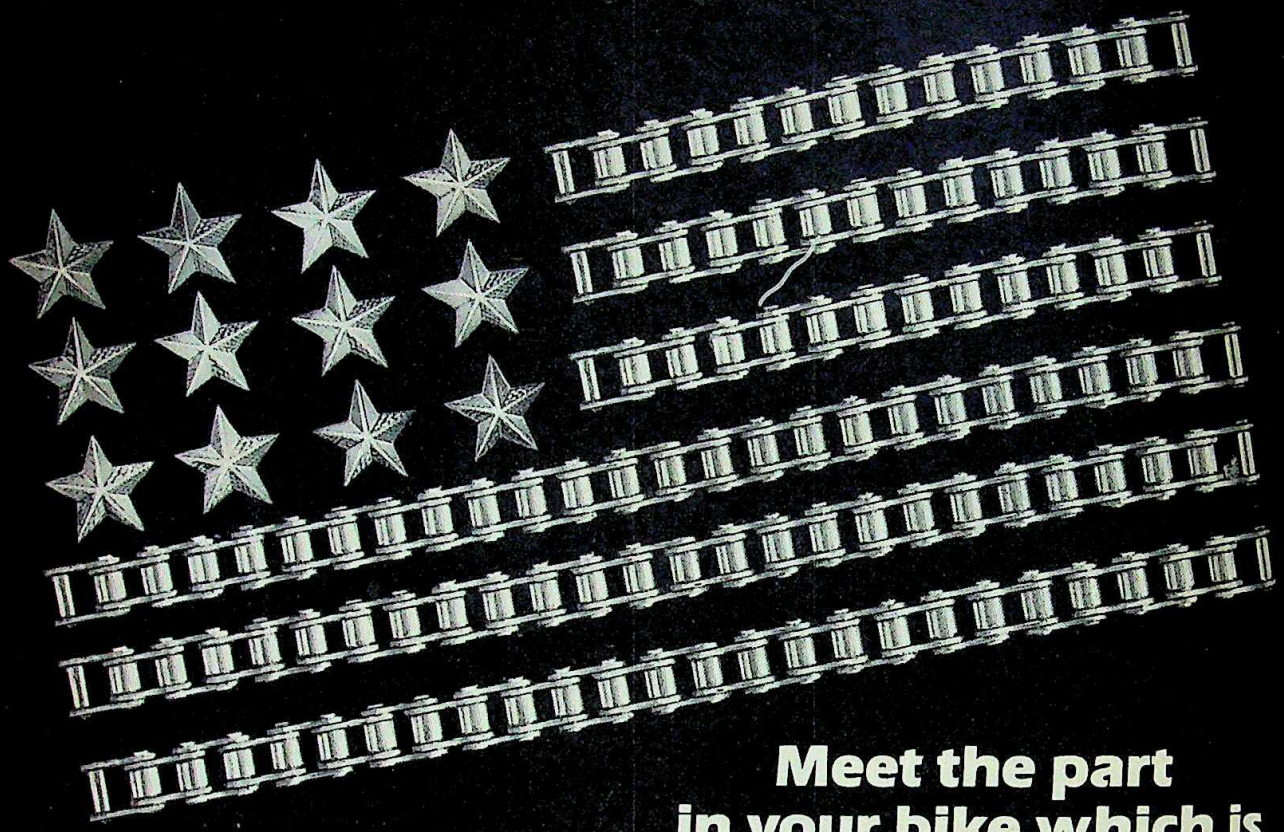
—INDERJIT BADHWAR and FARZAND AHMED in Patna

Singh's main survival tactic is to create caste divisions within his own and other parties.

K.M. KISHAN



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar



Meet the part in your bike which is partly American.

Your bike could be a Rajdoot. Hero Honda. Yamaha. TVS Suzuki. Kawasaki Bajaj. Bullet. Yezdi...

Whatever the make, there's one part which comes as original equipment. Made by an Indian associate of an American company.

It's your chain.

Diamond Super Chain.
It's manufactured in India by TI Diamond Chain Ltd., in technical collaboration with Diamond Chain Co., USA. And it is the chain that every bike manufacturer chooses to fit in his bike.

But why Diamond Super?

Diamond Chain Co., USA has hundred years of expertise in the field. And TI Diamond's professionals have constant access to this expertise.

Together, they produce a chain that has very low elongation. Undergoes surface hardening for **longer life.** Has thicker plates for **greater strength.** And is pre-lubricated for **silent, smooth performance.**

With all this, chances are, you won't have to replace your original Diamond Super. For a long time.

But when you do, **insist on another Diamond Super Chain only.**

And keep the flag flying.

DIAMOND SUPER®

Some things in a bike should stay original.

A TI product

HTA 7845

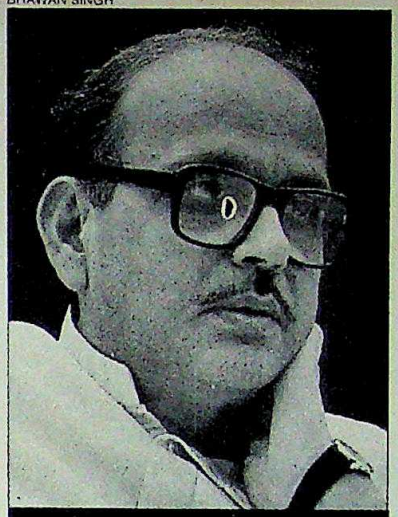
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

PRASHANT PANJIAR

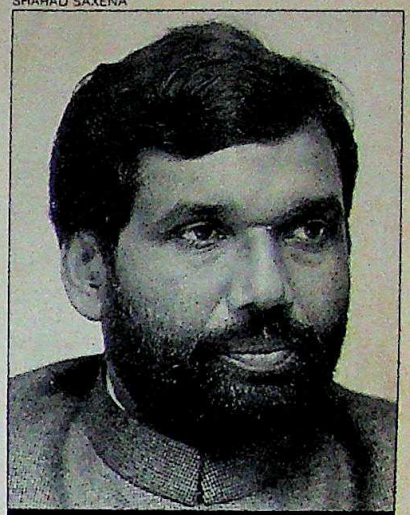
SHARAD YADAV

BHAWAN SINGH



V.P. SINGH

SHARAD SAXENA



RAM VILAS PASWAN

With Ram Vilas Paswan and Sharad Yadav leading the charge, V.P. Singh is preparing to take the Mandal Commission battle into his opponents' camp.

been despatched to various parts of the country to counter the anti-Mandal agitation. Singh is also banking on support from the south.

While the backward castes have still not come out on the streets in any substantial measure, Muslim leaders, encouraged by Singh's stand on the Ayodhya issue, have expressed near total support for him. Says Mohammed Afzal, a Rajya Sabha MP from Uttar Pradesh and follower of the Shahi Imam of Delhi's Jama Masjid: "If the Janata Dal changes its leader, it will lose the Muslims forever."

WITHIN the Janata Dal, Singh's followers have not been found wanting when under attack. On the day 29 MPs demanded his resignation, 40 others condemned the move. Nevertheless, Singh has opted to bury the hatchet. When senior party leaders met after the Sinha letter on October 5, they authorised the prime minister to expel both Dhawan and Sinha but Singh decided not to take any hasty action before consulting party chief Bommai. Says Bommai: "We have to restore the concept of collective leadership. We can be firm if the need arises."

But Singh's major target remains the Congress(I). And last fortnight, he achieved a breakthrough when a large group of Congressmen, including a few MPs, met in New Delhi and adopted a pro-Mandal resolution. The meeting, addressed among others by N.G. Ranga, the Congress(I)'s deputy leader in the Lok Sabha, raised slogans like "*Mandal report poori ho, chahe jo majboori ho*".

Wily as all these moves are, Singh is convinced they won't yield results unless backed by solid economic measures. So Cabinet Secretary Vinod Pandey and half a dozen other government secretaries have been asked to work out a youth welfare programme which will not only ensure massive employment in the private and government sector but open more avenues for self-employment. Besides, Singh is likely to introduce legislation reserving 40 per cent of the seats in the state assemblies and the Lok Sabha for those below the poverty line.

Finally Singh is convinced he can retrieve his lost image if he revives tax raids against economic offenders. He must fondly recall that it was the raid raj which shot him to national prominence. It worked once, it could work again. But all such calculations are at best gambles that could backfire.

"You can't just throw people out. When we need to be firm, we will be."

S.R. BOMMAI,
President, Janata Dal, on expulsion of rebels

GOVERNMENT'S STABILITY REMAINS A MIRAGE

WITH just 140 MPs in the Lok Sabha, dependent on the support of at least half a dozen parties, and constantly battered by Devi Lal and Chandra Shekhar, it sometimes seems a miracle that the National Front Government has lasted so long. Nor has the prime minister improved matters by his own style of functioning. Through much of his term, instead of leading from the front, he has let events dictate his government's decisions. And the first time he took a clear-cut initiative—on the Mandal Commission recommendations—he landed himself in a mess, eroding his own popularity and causing both the BJP and the CPI(M) to make cautionary noises.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Buy NHB 9% Capital Bonds. It offers 100% tax exemption plus handsome returns.

Tax exemption plus growth. NHB 9% Capital Bonds have benefits in store for you – and your capital.

• Your investment earns 9% per annum payable on a six-monthly basis.

• Or, you can opt for advance payment of interest at the rate of 9% per annum for the full period of 3 years on a discounted basis, at the rate of Rs. 240 per Rs. 1000 invested, payable 3 months from the date of investment. This takes into account the interest for the intervening period of 3 months in full – so, you do not lose interest even for a single day.

Long-term Capital Gains from land, buildings, shares, securities, jewellery, etc?

NATIONAL HOUSING BANK 9% CAPITAL BONDS

• Exemption from Capital Gains Tax U/S 54E of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

• No deduction of tax at source on the interest earned.

• Exemption up to Rs. 5 lakhs from Wealth Tax U/S 5(1)(xvie) read with 5(1A) of the Wealth Tax Act, 1957 along with other eligible assets.

• Exemption of interest U/S 80L of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

• Remittance charges borne by NHB.

• Available at par throughout the year at more than 130 outlets all over the country.

• With NHB 9% Capital Bonds, you have this added satisfaction–your investment will contribute to the betterment of housing in the country.

Application forms available and accepted at:

National Housing Bank offices (Bombay & Delhi) • CANFINA offices • 125 branches of the six bankers to the issue in 51 centres: Allahabad Bank, Bank of Baroda, Canara Bank, Citibank (Sakhar Bhavan, Bombay), Punjab National Bank and Vysya Bank Ltd.

Managers to the issue: Canbank Financial Services Limited

NATIONAL HOUSING BANK
(Wholly owned by the Reserve Bank of India)

Opening New Doors On the Home Front.

Bombay Life Building, 3rd floor, 45 Veer Nariman Road, Bombay 400 023.
6th floor, Hindustan Times House, 18-20, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi 110 001.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

RAGHU RAI

VOICES OF INSTABILITY

■ DEVI LAL ON V.P. SINGH

- *A man who could not save a* **wafadar saathi** *(faithful friend) from such a tight situation cannot save the country.* —In April 1990
- *V.P. Singh's conscience says let my image grow even if my colleagues die.* —In May 1990
- *V.P. does not have the political will—and the spine—to stand by what is right.* —In July 1990

■ CHANDRA SHEKHAR ON V.P. SINGH

- *The Government can continue without any direction, without any purpose. All it will have is its moralistic pretences.* —In April 1990
- *For the first time in history a prime minister will return soon after resigning.* —In July 1990
- *Devi Lal would have made a better prime minister than V.P. Singh.* —In September 1990

If there is a glue which holds the Government together, it lies not in Singh's personal charisma or the fact that Devi Lal and Chandra Shekhar have limited destructive capability, but in the sense of commitment of the National Front's younger MPs. Constituting over half the party's total MPs, these young representatives don't want to topple the Government simply because they feel the electorate would regard them as wreckers. Says a young minister: "While these old people are almost on the verge of retirement, we've got to be in politics for another 30 years. People chose us for five years and we can't go back to them saying, sorry, we betrayed your confidence, please vote for us again."

They argue that it took the opposition 11 years to return to power, and that if they fall now they will vegetate in the wilderness for the rest of their lives. Even the supporting parties are haunted by this fear of facing the electorate so soon. BJP General Secretary Kishan Lal Sharma warns that if this government collapses, it will be because of sabotage from within and its terrible performance on nearly every front. The BJP is unhappy with the National Front Government on many issues. Nevertheless, Sharma adds: "We will not allow the return of the Congress Raj."

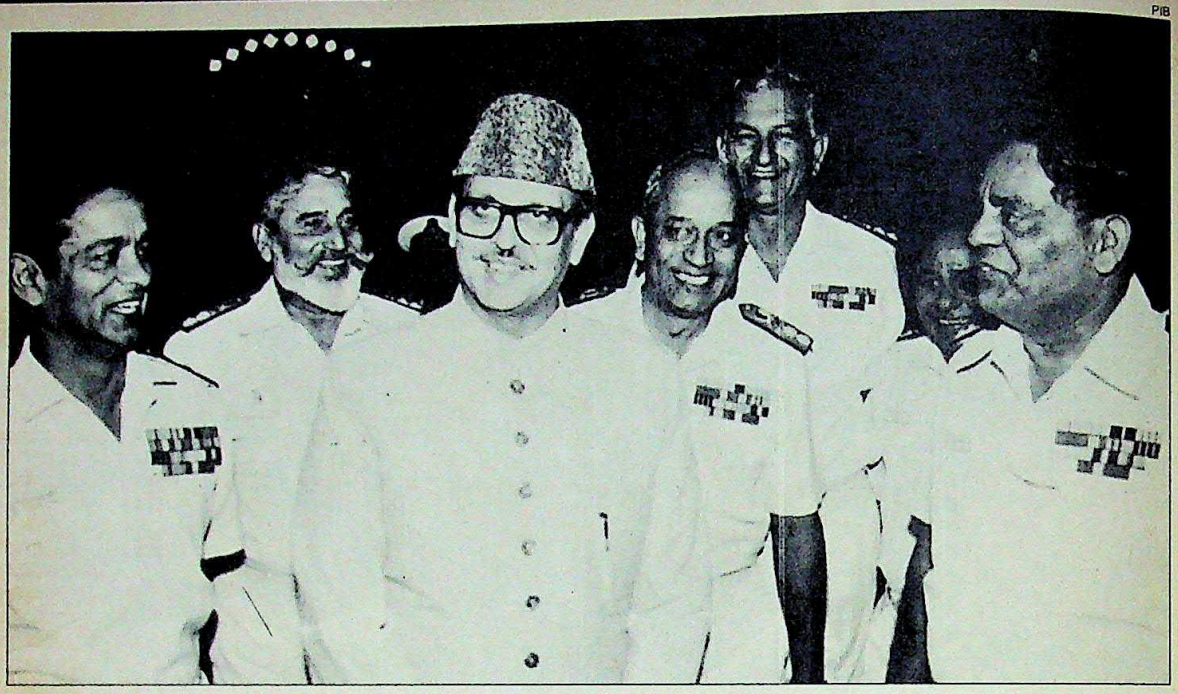
Financial considerations are another factor that is forcing MPs to restrain their itching hands. Campaigning expenses for a Lok Sabha seat could tot up to as much as Rs 20 lakh, and no party is in a position to raise such a large amount for the second time in less than a year.

Like everyone else, the dissidents too have taken these factors into consideration. So they are talking in terms of changing the leader rather than quitting the party, a course which some of them had suggested earlier. According to their calculations, some other leader in the Janata Dal may be able to carry not only his own party but also other friendly parties who are currently uncomfortable with the prime minister and his cabinet colleagues. The question is how long these essentially negative factors can sustain the Government. The inherent contradictions are so overpowering that a common anti-Congress(I) platform alone cannot hold the parties together. It would be too much to expect a miracle to last a full five years.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

PIB



V.P. Singh with top naval brass and Nadkarni (extreme right): serious crisis

INDIAN NAVY

Succession Storm

With Rear Admiral Bhagwat challenging the very basis of promotions under Admiral Nadkarni's leadership, the navy is being rocked by a major scandal.

By M. RAHMAN and W.P.S. SIDHU

THE Western Naval Command (WNC) is widely recognised as the "sword arm" of the Indian Navy. The post of flag officer commanding, Western Fleet (FOCWF) is thus a crucial and coveted one, reserved traditionally for the Indian Navy's best officers. However, last month, a new fleet admiral took command in Bombay under somewhat unusual circumstances. Rear Admiral K.K. Kohli was hurriedly inducted as the FOCWF at the ungodly hour of 3 a.m. on September 12.

The reason for the surreptitious ceremony became public a few hours later—in an unprecedented action, Rear Admiral V. Bhagwat moved a writ petition in the Bombay High Court alleging that he had been unjustly and fraudulently denied the fleet admiral's post by the Chief of Naval Staff, Admiral J.G. Nadkarni.

Bhagwat's extraordinary move created a sensation within the Indian Navy. The 50-year-old rear admiral, who was chief of staff of Vice-Admiral S. Jain, flag officer commanding-in-chief (FOC-in-C), Western Naval Command, was immediately transferred out of Bombay to a new assignment at Naval Headquarters in Delhi. Awarded the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (AVSM) in 1986 for displaying "exceptional leadership, professional competence, singleness of purpose and dedication resulting in the setting up of new fleet standards" during his command of the missile destroyer *INS Ranjit*, Bhagwat is a specialist in Soviet equipment.

But now, Bhagwat stands alone on the bridge as he takes on the naval establishment at a crucial moment. Nadkarni is due to retire on November 30, and the main contenders for the top job are Jain and his counterpart from the Eastern Naval Command, Vice-Admiral L. Ramdas, whom Bhagwat is personally close to. Bhagwat's 400-page writ petition comes like a torpedo in the turgid succession waters, questioning the very basis of promotions under Nadkarni's leadership.

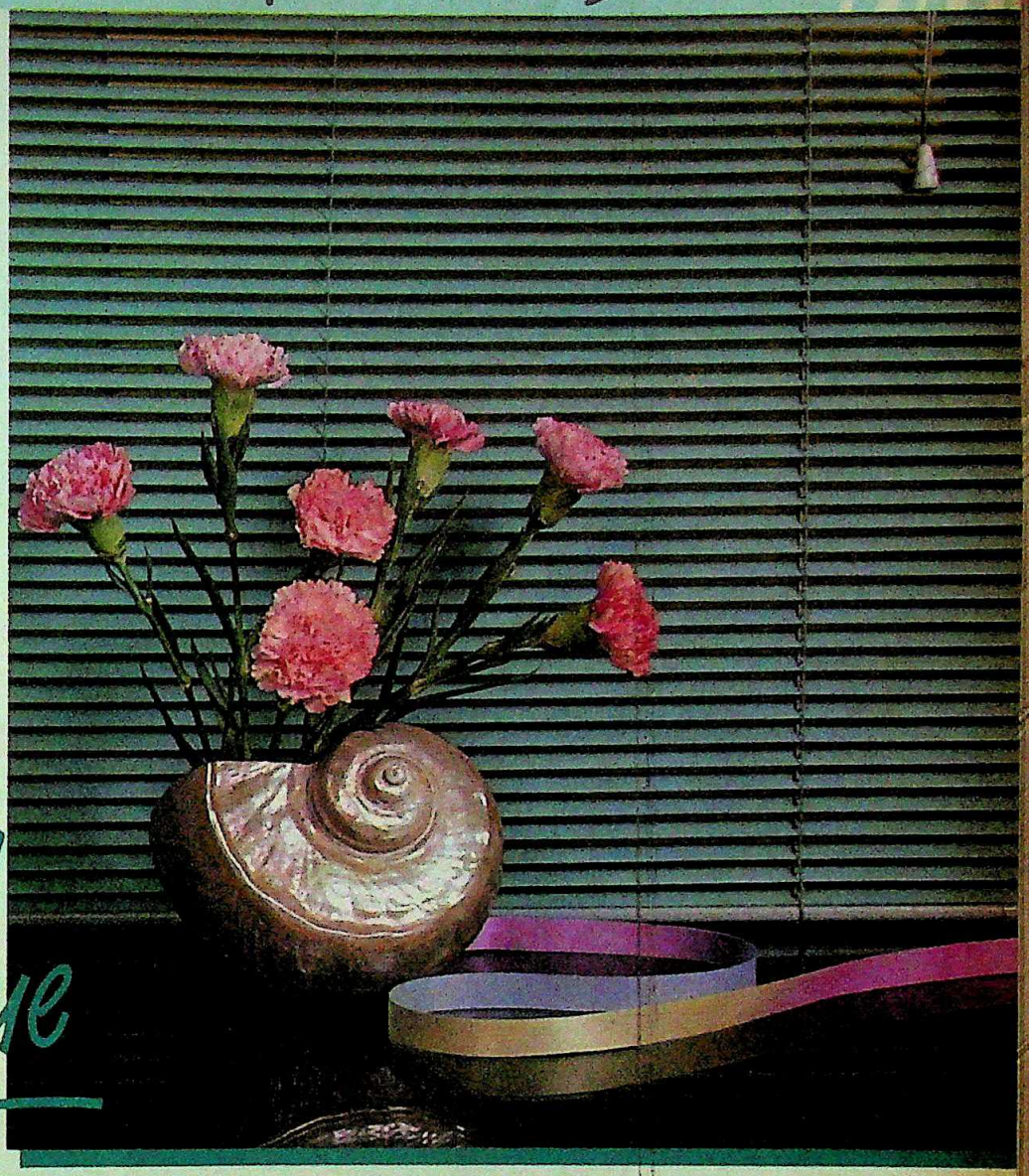
Bhagwat's explosive petition appears to have evoked radically different responses in naval circles—from those who maintain that it was an inevitable consequence of falling standards, to those who see it as part of the succession struggle for the top post. Some retired officers are dumbfounded that a rear admiral could go to court with such charges *(see box)*. Bhagwat himself contends that he was compelled to file the writ since V.P. Singh would not grant him a personal hearing after he submitted a statutory complaint. He failed to meet Singh though he had indicated that he wanted to reveal "matters of a sensitive nature relating to appointments, arms deals and national security issues" which could not be put down on paper. Before he moved the court, he was slapped with a show-cause notice by the navy and his professional career is now uncertain.

For the Indian Navy, the Bhagwat

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

WINDOW FASHION-90'S



Venetian Mystique

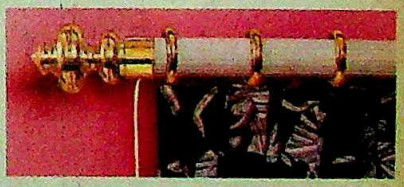
Here it is.

Vista Levolor, the 90's window fashion.

Vista Levolor accents your windows and shows them at their best. With the latest trends, largest choice and imported mechanisms.

Vista Levolor Venetian Blinds offer easy control of light and privacy. In collaboration with Levolor Inc. U.S.A., Vista presents a quality range of 85 dramatic colours, in 15mm and 25mm widths.

Other Window Fashion Ideas:
Vista Levolor Vertical Blinds: Elegant and convenient. Only Vista Levolor offers you louvres in 2", 3", 4" and 5" widths.



Vista Levolor Drapery Rods: Sleek. In 20 colours to make over 200 combinations.

Vista LEVOLOR

New Ideas in Window Fashion.

We'll come across to install your window dressing anytime, day or night. Just call us. In the meantime, write to us for a free booklet on ***Window Fashion-90's.***

uct by **Alps Textiles Pvt. Ltd. Head Off.:** B/4, D-3, Shopping-Cum-Facility Centre, Alaknanda, New Delhi-19. Ph: 6412576, 6413216. Fax: 8732627. Telex: 0592-2
ay Off.: 29-30, Vaswani Mansion, 6th Floor, Dinshaw Wachha Road, Bombay-20. Ph: 221784, 221697.
Phone Nos. **Agra:** Suman Arts-62973 pp. **Ahmedabad:** Priyadarshini-401454. Windoor Mktg.-442180. **Bangalore:** Girdhar Baldev & Co.-211343, 215609. Featherlite Collection-264009. **Bombay:** Modele
-514500, 5114681. Eskay Enterprises-6140734, 6060619. **Calcutta:** Odd Jobs-448404, 444206. **Calicut:** Galaxy Business Systems-55533, 53090. **Chandigarh:** Comfit Mktg.-43303. **Cochin:** Skyline Systems-3698
-27604. **Hyderabad:** Window Shades-223278. **Indore:** Home Decor-35933. **Jamshedpur:** Foundro Enterprises-25155. **Kanpur:** Exquisite Interiors-240602. **Lucknow:** Furnishing House-242283, 33164. **Ludhi**
-25298. Vaneet Sales-24115. **Madras:** Arvee & Co.-73362, 73472. Rekha Decor-428199, 428250. **Mysore:** Darla Sales & Agency-31473. **Nagpur:** Nagpur Aluminium-46913. **Pune:** Super Decor-444573, 444225. **Ra**
-844868. **Secunderabad:** Home Decor-844860.
DEALERS ENQUIRIES SOLIC

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

We share the lifeblood of an agri-community. And the secrets of the soil.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Fertilizer. A critical need that touches the life of every farmer. At The Andhra Sugars, this need has been a cause for concern. And the reason for setting up a fertilizer plant as far back as 1960, for the manufacture of superphosphate. An essential fertilizer for sugarcane, paddy, tobacco and other crops. 100 tonnes of superphosphate per day, are produced at the plant, to meet the growing demand. The result, the farming community is assured of a steady supply of fertilizer, resulting in greater crop yields.

Over four decades have seen the change in The Andhra Sugars. An enterprise that began as a modest sugar factory, today produces a range of chemicals such as industrial alcohol, acetic acid, acetic anhydride, ethyl acetate etc. Chemicals that find wide application in a host of industries - pharmaceuticals, paper, textiles...

The Andhra Sugars has the credit for being one of the largest manufacturers of Aspirin in India. A capacity of 500 tonnes per annum. Contributing a major share to the country. The inorganic chemicals complex at Kovvur, produces a range of chemicals - sulphuric acid, caustic soda, caustic potash, chlorine, hydrochloric acid, alum etc. Catering to a vast cross section of industry, such as aluminium, paper, drugs, dyes, textiles etc.

The story of The Andhra Sugars has been one of planned growth and diversification. Soon, The Andhra Sugars will be diversifying into oils, soaps and petrochemicals. Now, this multi-crore conglomerate looks towards its golden jubilee year with keen anticipation and a renewed sense of commitment to industry. And progress.

THE ANDHRA SUGARS LTD. TANUKU

THE ANDHRA SUGARS LTD.

Venkatarayapuram
Tanuku (West Godavari Dist.) Andhra Pradesh

OTS/ASL/290

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

THE DYNAMICS OF A HARD WORKING FLOOR

Wonderfloor is the best bet for High Human Traffic Areas.* Hygienic. Moppable. Tough. Durable. To give you the best value for money. Quietly. With dynamics that prove to be the bottom line in Floorings. Manufactured in Technical collaboration with **PEGULAN** of **W. GERMANY.**

* "Robust" range from Premier Vinyl.

WONDERFLOOR
VINYL FLOORING

PREMIER VINYL
FLOORING LTD
IN TECHNICAL COLLABORATION WITH PEGULAN WEST GERMANY

Sales Offices:

New Delhi: C-4, Commercial Centre, Safdarjung Dev. Area, New Delhi-110 016. Phone: 668329/6864190 **Calcutta:** 3rd Floor No. 3 Netaji Subhash Rd., Calcutta 700 001. Phone: 281702/281703 **Patna:** Shiva-Dham, Nala Road, Kadam Kuan, Patna 800 003 Phone: 59342. **Bombay:** 328, Kaliandas Udyog Bhavan, Behind Century Bazar, Worli, Bombay 400 025 Phone: 4300289/4228839 **Bangalore:** 190/1, 4th Floor, Kota Shopping Complex, Brigade Road, Bangalore 560 001 Phone: 571178. **Madras:** 43, IVth Trust Cross Street, Mandaveli, Madras 600 028 **Hyderabad:** Emerald Complex, 3rd Floor, Adj. Park Lane, P.O. 2029, Sarojini Devi Road, Secunderabad 500 003 Phone: 844804 **Cochin:** XI/1535, Shenoy Rd., Kaloor, Cochin 682017. **Chandigarh:** H.No. 1074, Sector 19-B, Chandigarh 160 019 Phone: 43482. **Baroda:** No. 6, Kailash Park Society, Behind Central Bank, Race Course Rd., Ellora Park, Baroda-390 007 Phone: 321471. **Lucknow:** 20 Rana Pratap Marg, Lucknow 226 001 Phone: 234318 **Guwahati:** Moni Ram Dewan Lane, Ulubari, Guwahati 781 007.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Shems/1108/3

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

episode is clearly the most embarrassing in its history. Apart from Bhagwat's sensational charges, it has brought into uncomfortable public focus the succession struggle between the two main contenders for the post of chief of naval staff—Vice Admiral S. Jain, and Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Eastern Naval Command, Vice-Admiral L. Ramdas.

While Bhagwat's petition is inspired by his non-appointment, its content, and more significantly, some crucial omissions, have raised doubts about whether it has also been provoked by the desire to strengthen Ramdas' candidature over Jain for the post of naval chief.

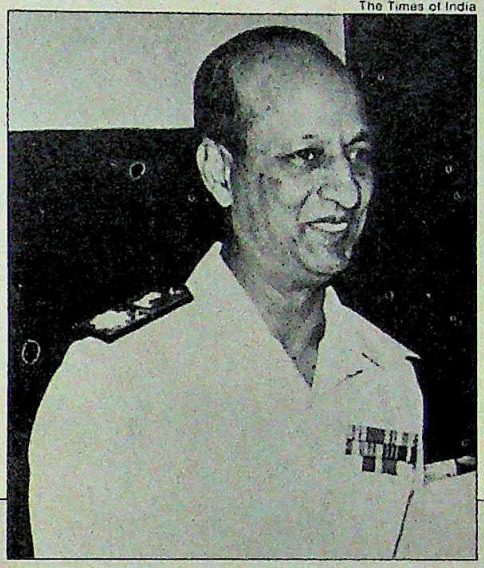
The unprecedented drama has created an upsurge in the navy as never before. In the past, such titanic succession battles have been more commonly witnessed in the army, which is large enough to absorb the tremors at the top. But the navy is a more compact force, and some senior naval officers feel the boat is being rocked unduly with the tussle no longer confined to South Block.

THE confrontation has its genesis in the appointment of Ramdas, earlier FOC-in-C of the non-operational Southern Command, as FOC-in-C Eastern Command in March 1989. As chief of one of the navy's two operational commands, he became a serious contender for the post of naval chief. This was further strengthened by the fact that the only possible rivals—Jain, who had been appointed as FOC-in-C, Western Command in February 1986, and Vice-Admiral S.C. Chopra, the vice chief of naval staff—would have to step down on February 28, 1990, after completing the stipulated four years, under existing service rules.

However, Nadkarni was able to persuade the National Front Government to give Jain an extension till December 31, 1990 and retain Chopra till the end of June. The extension was dramatically announced on February 27—just a day before Jain and Chopra were to step down. This, overnight, propelled Jain (the senior most naval officer after Nadkarni) as the leader in the succession race. It also set the stage for the bitter battle that followed.

For Jain it was a clear signal that he was being groomed to take over as naval chief. With Nadkarni giving him the crucial extension, Jain would automatically have been made chief due to

The Times of India



REAR ADMIRAL V. BHAGWAT

Firing Charges

THE writ petition asking for a stay on the appointment of the new fleet admiral was filed on behalf of Rear Admiral Bhagwat by his advocate-wife Niloufer Bhagwat, a specialist in administrative law. The judge refused to stay Kohli's appointment but admitted the petition for further hearing. Among Bhagwat's charges:

▶ Kohli became FOCWF thanks to a new, bogus method of mathematically assessing an officer's record created under Nadkarni's instructions. Bhagwat was superseded even though he has a much superior sea record. Inflated shore reports of Kohli were used to tilt the scales, when according to rules, assessments should be based on the record of command at sea.

▶ Bhagwat was also overlooked earlier this year when Rear Admiral P.S. Das was made flag officer commanding, Eastern Fleet (FOCEF). Das has only 30 months experience in command of ships at sea, against Bhagwat's 55 months. Both Kohli and Das held safe shore positions during the 1971 Indo-Pak war, while Bhagwat participated in the attack on Karachi harbour. Earlier in his career, Das was court-martialled for fabricating documents. Also, as director of naval plans in '86-87, he certified Rs 130 crore over the budget for naval projects, earning strictures from the Public Accounts Committee. He was saved by his brother-in-law, then defence secretary S.K. Bhatnagar. Instead of a panel of names, only Das was proposed for the FOCEF's post last year and moreover, it did not get the Defence Ministry's approval. However, after the change of government, Das' appointment was rushed through with the help of his uncle, Home Secretary Naresh Chandra.

▶ Nadkarni and Jain's objective is to check the rise of officers "who are not morally pliable and have the professionalism, integrity and determination to preserve the fighting spirit of the Navy". The Prime Minister's Principal Secretary, B.G. Deshmukh, is "interfering in the appointments of Fleet Commanders without jurisdiction". Bhagwat was not appointed FOCWF in spite of the Defence Ministry's recommendation, as Deshmukh intervened at the last minute to "mislead" V.P.Singh, who is defence minister.

▶ Promotion decisions are being influenced by the US through officers trained in the staff college there. All key appointments in the last few years have gone to alumni of the Naval War College at Newport (NWC). Nadkarni, Jain, Das and Kohli have all been to NWC. The college's statistical promotional record for alumni from 67 countries shows that all 13 ex-NWC officers in the Indian Navy have been promoted to flag rank (rear admiral and above), a unique 100 per cent record achieved only in the Mexican Navy. In the US Navy itself, only two out of 12 NWC officers have made it to flag rank.

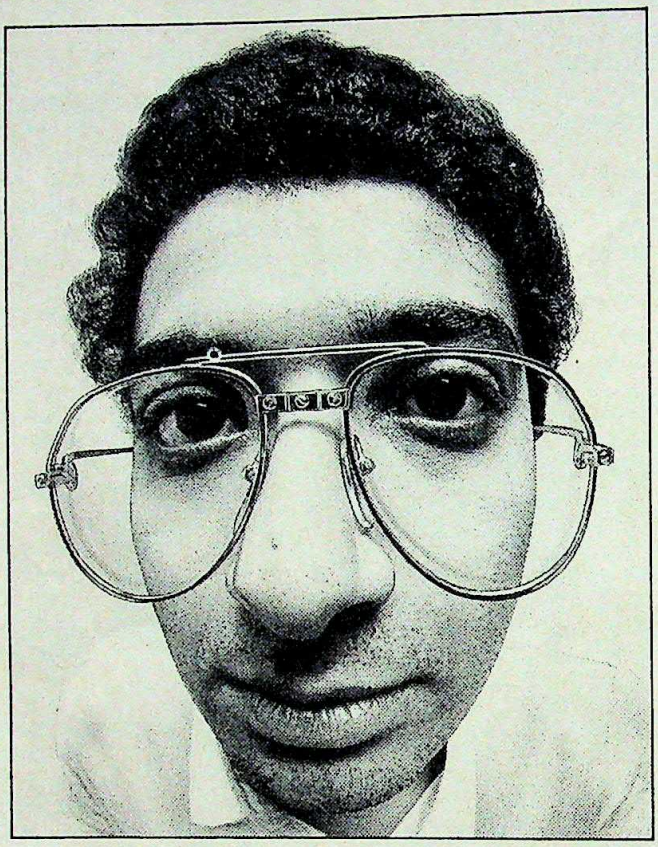
▶ Nadkarni and Jain tampered with his annual confidential report (ACR) for 1988-89. Two letters from Jain to Naval Headquarters—dated September 13, 1989 and March 28, 1990—refer to the forwarding of his ACR.

▶ Both Nadkarni and Jain were opposed to the acquisition of the nuclear submarine *Chakra* and were, therefore, prejudiced against Bhagwat.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Mr. Srivastava tested his eyes. Too bad he didn't test his lenses.



Srivastava's new lenses didn't quite match the prescription.

That's why the world now looked just a little distorted. His judgement of depth was just a little off. And he was getting headaches just a little too often.

If only Srivastava had gone to a GKB EyeCare Centre.

After all, GKB is India's only manufacturer of lenses of world class accuracy and quality. Satisfying millions of customers in demanding export markets like West Germany, France, U.K. and Australia.

Now, to ensure that you get GKB lenses whenever you need them, GKB opens its first chain of EyeCare Centres in Bombay. Offering vision-correction facilities of international standard under a single roof. Accuracy that even your doctor can vouch for.

Don't lose sight of your eyesight, like Srivastava did. Put yourself in the hands of a good eye specialist... and GKB.

GKB

GKB EyeCare Centres

Insight into eyesight

GKB EyeCare Centres in Bombay:

FORT: 19, S.A. BRELVI ROAD, OFF P.M. ROAD, NEAR TO BANK OF TOKYO, FORT, BOMBAY 400 001. TEL: 2860286. **THANE:** SHOP NO. 1, CHIDANAND APARTMENTS, NEAR VANDANA CINEMA, THANE 400 602 TEL: 506276. **SANTACRUZ:** PRERANA BUILDING, OPP. H.P. PETROL PUMP, NEAR KHIRA NAGAR, S.V. ROAD, SANTACRUZ (W), BOMBAY 400 054. TEL: 6124003. **BANDRA:** 2, LOKHANDWALA BLDG., NATIONAL LIBRARY ROAD, NEAR NANDI CINEMA, BANDRA (W), BOMBAY 400 050. TEL: 6424831. **CHEMBUR:** SUSWAGATHAM, OPP. DIAMOND GARDEN, CHEMBUR, BOMBAY 400 071. TEL: 5555618. **MALAD:** 20, SHANTINATH SHOPPING CENTRE, OPP. ELITE NURSING HOME & POLYCLINIC, S.V. ROAD, MALAD (W), BOMBAY 400 064. TEL: 6822770. **MATUNGA:** 3, SHRI RANG BLDG., 351, CHANDRAWARKAR ROAD, OPP. RAM WADI, BANK OF BARODA, MATUNGA (CR), BOMBAY 400 019. TEL: 4141567. **GHATKOPAR:** K.V.O.D. BUILDING, DERASAR LANE, OPP. STANDARD CHARTERED BANK, GHATKOPAR (E), BOMBAY 400 077. **ULHASNAGAR:** "MUKUND BLDG.", AMAN TALKIES ROAD, ULHASNAGAR 421 002. TEL: 79289/71307/72546. **BORIVLI:** 1, NEW SHANTI NAGAR, S.V.P. ROAD, OPP. DIGAMBER JAIN TEMPLE, BORIVLI (W), BOMBAY 400 092. **KANDIVLI:** 20, SHREEJI DARSHAN SHOPPING CENTRE, OPP. RATIONING OFFICE, 100, S.V. ROAD, KANDIVLI (W), BOMBAY 400 067. TEL: 697675/690186. **DOMBIVLI:** 1, SITARAM PALACE, MANPADA ROAD, DOMBIVLI (E). TEL: 2320. **KALYAN:** SHOP NO. 1, SHANKAR RAO CHOWK, KALYAN. TEL: 27412 **VASHI:** 9, PLOT NO. 86, THACKER TOWER, NEAR H.D.F.C., SECTOR 17, VASHI, NEW BOMBAY.

GKB Ophthalmics Ltd., 316, Creative Industries Building, Kalina, Bombay 400 098. Tel: 6151523/6133207, Telex: 11-78394 GKB IN

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

his seniority over Ramdas.

Ramdas, however, refused to throw in the towel. According to top naval and defence officials Ramdas began to lobby to strengthen his case against Jain. He made three personal trips to the capital and, according to naval officials, began lobbying with bureaucrats in the Defence Ministry and the newly-appointed Minister of State for Defence, Dr Raja Ramanna.

At the same time Bhagwat, who was Jain's chief of staff when the succession struggle started, alleged in his petition that Jain was actively lobbying in Delhi through a group of businessmen to ensure that he was not denied the naval chief's job.

Sharp differences had already emerged between Jain and Bhagwat over the day-to-day functioning of the command. The tension was further accentuated by Bhagwat's pro-Soviet ideology and his belief that Jain, along with Nadkarni and Kohli—all of whom have done a course at the Naval War College, Newport—were part of a pro-US coterie dominating the navy.

When Bhagwat learnt that he was not being appointed as fleet commander of the Western Fleet, he charged Jain with giving him a bad report and forwarded a formal complaint to the Defence Ministry, following it up with the petition. The petition held the troika of Jain, Nadkarni and Vice-Admiral V.L. Koppikar, the chief of Personnel, responsible for Bhagwat's 'supersession'.

NAVAL officials, however, point out that appointment as fleet commander is not a promotion and, therefore, there is no question of Bhagwat being superseded. Moreover, in the panel of names forwarded by Naval Headquarters to the ministry, Bhagwat ranks third after Rear Admiral K.K. Kohli and Rear Admiral A. Tandon.

Bhagwat does not confine himself to redressal of his personal grievance in his petition. But he goes on to enumerate numerous errors of commission and omission allegedly carried out by the top brass, naming several top officers in the process and questioning their appointment to crucial positions in the navy. The wide scope of Bhagwat's petition has therefore invited the charge that it is also motivated by other factors.

These disturbing questions apart, the petition is clearly aimed at one section of the naval echelon. In the entire petition, Admiral Ramdas is mentioned only once and that too in passing. Bhagwat goes to great pains to list a number of officers who have children studying in the US or married to green card holders, thus implying that the pro-US coterie may be compromising the interest of the navy. He, however, fails to point out that Ramdas' three daughters are green card holders. One of them, Kavita, is also married to a Pakistani, Zulfiqar Ahmed, who is specialising in comparative studies of the Soviet Union. (When contacted by INDIA TODAY, Ramdas declined to say anything about the controversy).

Similarly, Bhagwat reserves his most vitriolic attack for Rear Admiral P.S. Das, who was appointed to command the Eastern Fleet. He holds Das personally responsible for the sinking of *INS Andaman* on August 21 and repeatedly draws attention to this fact. However, there is no mention at all of the FOC-in-C East, Vice-Admiral L. Ramdas, who was also present at sea during the exercises in which *INS Andaman* sank and had overall responsibility for the fleet.

The petition was filed at a significant moment. It was filed just a fortnight before the announcement of the next naval chief was to be made. With Nadkarni due to retire on November 30, the announcement of the next chief should have been made by September 30, at the end of the senior officers' conference. No announcement was forthcoming and the atmosphere of the conference was marred with Jain and Ramdas exchanging accusations and allegations. In fact, so intense is the struggle that the entire navy has become polarised into pro-Jain and pro-Ramdas camps.

The no-holds-barred rivalry is obviously the reason why the Defence Ministry has delayed announcing Nadkarni's successor. The ministry's task is further compounded by the fact that there is no third contender in sight. The next in line are Vice-Admiral Govil, the FOC-in-C Southern Command and Vice-Admiral H. Johnson, the vice chief of naval staff. Both these officers have not commanded fleets and are regarded as too inexperienced for the post of naval chief.

In such a scenario Nadkarni's tenure as chief may just be extended till the battle for succession is resolved one way or the other. Whatever the outcome may be, the image of the Indian Navy has been badly tainted by the succession shenanigans and it will be quite some time before the taint is washed away.

NAMAS BHOJANI

■ Vice-Admiral Jain aboard *INS Virat* (above); and Vice-Admiral L. Ramdas

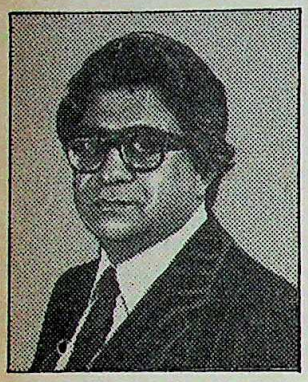
Bhagwat's charges have brought into public focus the sordid succession struggle between the two main contenders for the post of naval chief: vice-admirals S. Jain and L. Ramdas

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Garware Nylons Limited

Registered Office: Chander Mukhi, Nariman Point, Bombay 400 021.



Statement of Mr. Ashok Garware, Chairman, Garware Nylons Limited, on the occasion of the 32nd Annual General Meeting of the Company on 28th September, 1990.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have great pleasure in extending to you all a very warm and cordial welcome to this Thirty-second Annual General Meeting of your Company.

2. Dr. B. D. GARWARE, FOUNDER & CHAIRMAN EMERITUS:

Padma Bhushan Dr. B.D. Garware, the Founder of the 'Garware Group', on completion of a five-year term, has stepped down as the Managing Director on 31st December, 1989, and as the Chairman and Director on 21st August, 1990, the positions he held with distinction over three decades.

Dr. B.D. Garware is the Founder Chairman of the Company and under his stewardship the Company has grown from strength to strength and achieved phenomenal progress. The Company was indeed fortunate in that, a person of his calibre and stature was available, right from its inception, to guide its destiny. The Company owes its present status to his vision, innovative spirit, inspiring leadership and business acumen. The Board has recorded its deep appreciation of the valuable services rendered and the significant contribution made by Dr. B.D. Garware to the success and development of the Company. I am sure you all share the same feelings.

In appreciation of his long and outstanding services, the Board has conferred on him the honorary title – 'Founder & Chairman Emeritus', an honour that he so richly deserves.

3. PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS:

The Directors' Report and the Audited Accounts for the 15 month period ended on 31st March, 1990, have been with you for some time. I presume you have had an opportunity of going through the same; I shall take them as read.

Gross Sales, at Rs. 195 crores for the period under review, registered an annualised increase of 20% over Gross Sales at Rs. 174 crores for the previous period. Net Sales, on annualised basis, have increased by 35%, Gross Profit by 33% and Net Profit by 17%. The Company has thus continued to perform well during the period under review. Barring unforeseen circumstances,this trend is likely to continue. I look forward with confidence towards a bright future.

4. DIVIDEND:

Your Directors have recommended, subject to your approval, a dividend @ 18.75% (subject to deduction of tax), (15% on annualised basis) absorbing a sum of Rs. 1.82 crores.

5. FINANCE:

The Company has proposed, subject to the approval of the concerned authorities, a Rights Issue of 22,35,600 – 12.5% Secured Redeemable Partly Convertible Debentures of Rs. 50/- each, of an aggregate nominal value of Rs. 11.18 crores, with the right to retain over-subscription 15% thereof, or such other higher amount as the Controller of Capital Issues may permit for the purpose of augmenting the long-term resources for working capital requirements and for financing capital expenditure under the various schemes. I am confident that you will, as in the past, extend your fullest co-operation and support.

6. MODERNISATION & EXPANSION:

Presently, the Company is involved in consolidating its position so as to progressively optimise its manufacturing facilities. The Company's accent on modernisation is also continuing. The project pertaining to expansion of its capacity for the manufacture of Polyester Filament Yarn, presently under implementation, will be operational by the end of this year.

7. EXCISE DUTY:

The 1990 Budget has enhanced the excise duty on Nylon Filament Yarn (by 37%), Polyester Filament Yarn (by 12%) and Nylon Tyre Yarn (by 15%), and imposed fresh excise levies on DMT/PTA the raw materials for the manufacture of Polyester Filament Yarn. Instead of abolishing excise duty (15.75%) on Caprolactum, the vital raw material for the manufacture of Nylon Filament Yarn and Nylon Tyre Yarn, which has been the long standing grouse of the industry, the authorities have chosen to impose excise duty (15.75%) on DMT/PTA hitherto exempted from such levy. The short-term revenue considerations appear to have outweighed long-term interests of the industry, revenue and the consumers, much against the spirit of the Textile Policy announced after deep deliberations. However, a redeeming feature is that the excise duty on yarn used for fish net and defence purposes has been reduced. I urge the authorities to review the position in this regard and continue to reduce progressively the excise duty burden, as enunciated in the Textile Policy, so as to generate demand and to ensure optimum utilisation of the increased capacity.

8. BASIC RAW MATERIALS:

The authorities have reduced the import duties on DMT/PTA from 195% to 150%. Your Company welcomes the relief and the pragmatic approach of the Government. I regret, however, that the same pragmatic approach has not been displayed in the case of MEG and Caprolactum. On the contrary, the import duty on MEG has been enhanced from 90% to 150% and the import duty on Caprolactum (including C.V.D.) with a marginal increase stands at 102.56%. Since the industry will have to continue to depend on imports, to the extent of about 90% at least for the present, import duty on Caprolactum needs to be so regulated as to ensure adequate supply of Caprolactum (without affecting the domestic production) at fair and reasonable prices, which will benefit the consumers and sustain the growth of the Synthetic Filament Industry.

9. OUR COMMITMENT:

Our search to reduce costs, augment productivity at all levels and achieve the best possible results, is continuing. The working of the Company during the current year has also been encouraging.

The Company's various Expansion and Modernisation Schemes will not only enhance its turnover but will also contribute substantially to its profitability. With the sound infrastructure and the well-balanced multi-fibre complex with diversity and flexibility in the production pattern, built by the Company over the years, and the broad marketing base to cater to various segments of synthetic yarn users, I visualise good prospects for growth and development of the Company.

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Before I conclude, I wish to place on record my deep appreciation of the whole-hearted support and valuable guidance from my colleagues on the Board. I would also like to express my appreciation of the services of the functional directors, senior executives, officers, staff and devoted employees, who have contributed to the efficient operation of the Company. I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the Central and State Governments, Financial Institutions and Banks for their continued and active support and, last but not the least, I warmly appreciate the support and understanding of all the Members, as also your presence here this afternoon, which reflects your keen interest in the progress and well-being of your Company.

Thank you.

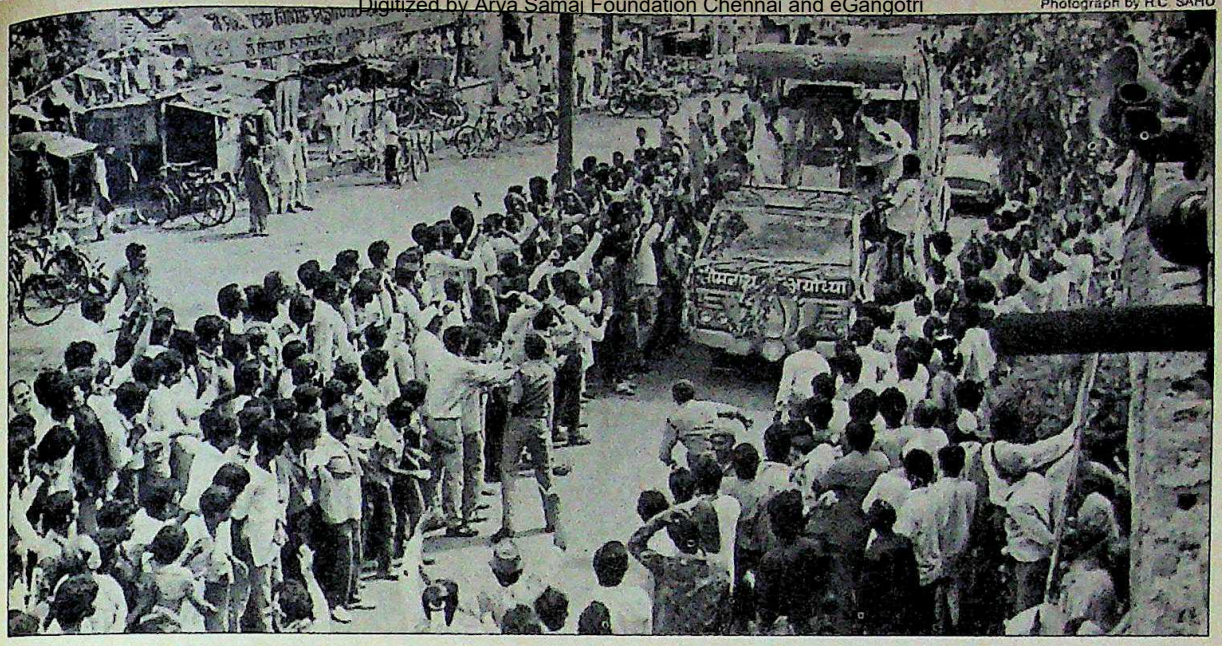
Bombay, *CHAIRMAN*
28th September, 1990

This does not purport to be a report of the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Photograph by R.C. SAHU



Rousing welcome at Chhindwara

THE BJP

Rumbustious Ride

Teeming crowds, but also communal tension

FEW caravans have created such tumult in their wake. When BJP President Lal Krishna Advani set off on his 10,000-km trip from near the Somnath temple in Gujarat on September 25, to the controversial site of the Babri Masjid in Ayodhya in Uttar Pradesh, the path was expected to be lined with bouquets. And blood too.

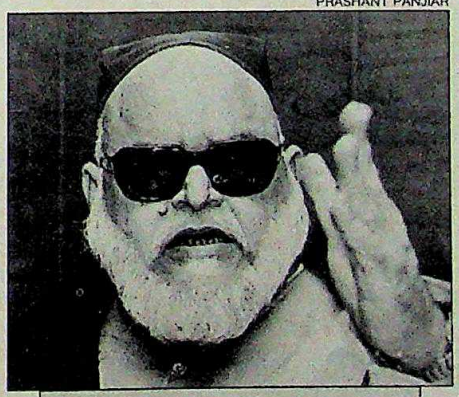
And that is exactly what has happened as the air-conditioned DCM-Toyota van, decorated to look like the rath used by Arjun in the *Mahabharat* tele-serial, continues on its controversial yatra. Seated Arjun-like on a cushioned armchair under a canopy was Advani who halted the van each time he caught sight of a group of people and then proceeded to whip up passions. Crowds thronged to his rath all across north India. And at many places across the country communal riots erupted in maddening frenzy. The worst was at Gonda in Uttar Pradesh where communal mayhem broke out.

But Advani could not be fazed. Rhetorically, he asked: "Do they mean to say that there were no communal riots in the country before I undertook my yatra?" And he went on to claim that his cataclysmic journey had on the contrary, helped in easing the communal tension. According to him the sharpness and tone of the slogans had been moderated wherever he had gone. "Now no one can stop the march of this rath," he declared in triumph.

The BJP chief had reason to feel buoyant. For as far as he was concerned things were going according to plan. The yatra's route was lined with crowds and flower petals were strewn on the roads. So much so that flowers were being sold at a premium in Indore when the rath passed through.

Imam Bukhari: aggressive stance

PRASHANT PANJIAR



> "If the Government fails to ban the rath, the Muslims may have to take matters into their own hands."

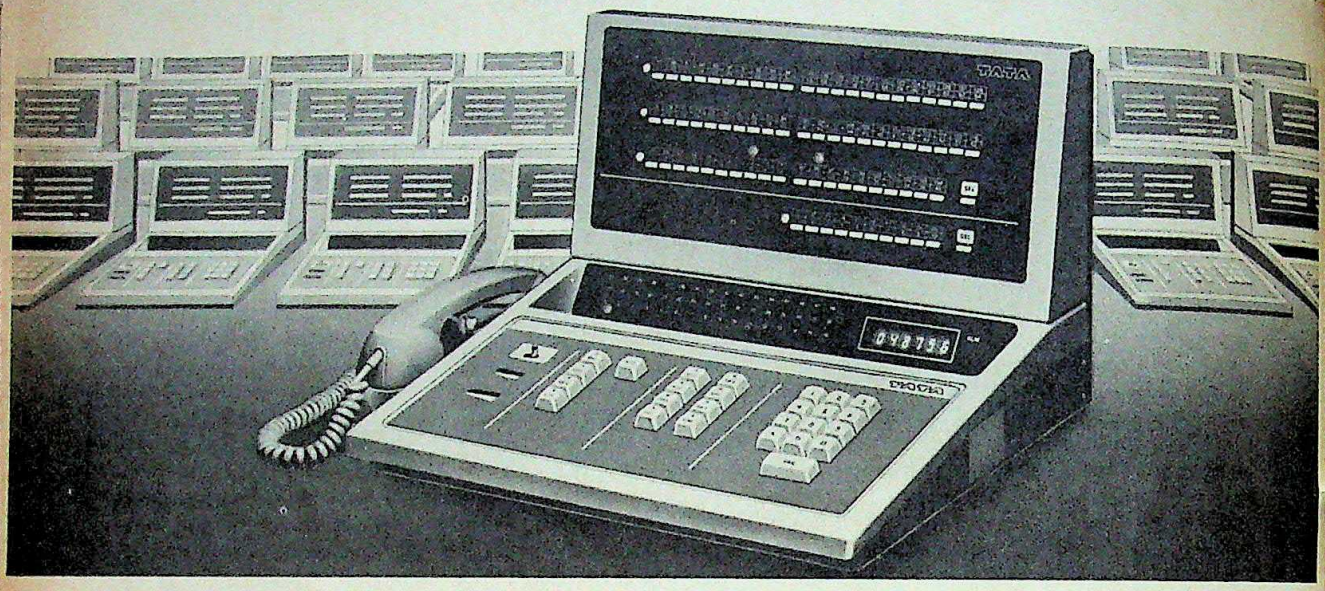
Interestingly, the very idea of seeing the rath seemed to be bringing in the people. "I don't know Advani. I've come to see the rath because when it reaches Ayodhya they will construct a temple there," said Bhoori Bai, 65, who was waiting for Advani's caravan at Mehatwada village in Dewas district. The rath, clearly, is a juggernaut of the Hindutva sentiment. Atop it are the flags of the BJP and the VHP, and in front is a cut-out of the lotus. Under the canopy there is a cut-out of Om and slogans on the side of the rath proclaim: "*Badhe chalo, badhe chalo, mandir ki shaan ke liye badhe chalo, Hindutva ki shaan ke liye badhe chalo*". (March on for the glory of the temple and the pride of Hindutva.) There is a huge portrait of Advani at the back of the van along with slogans exhorting him to go ahead and build the temple.

As if all this was not enough, the rath was welcomed everywhere with communal slogans that could not but spew hate. A sampler: "*Tel lagao dabur ka, naam mita do Babar ka.*" (Apply the hair-oil of Dabur, and erase the name of Babur.) A natural fall-out of all this was some gory ceremonies, with some people even piercing their skins with trishuls and offering their blood to the

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

MORE THAN 700 ORGANISATIONS ALL OVER INDIA HAVE PUT THEIR TRUST IN ONE EPABX SYSTEM.



IT'S MADE BY TATA TELECOM.

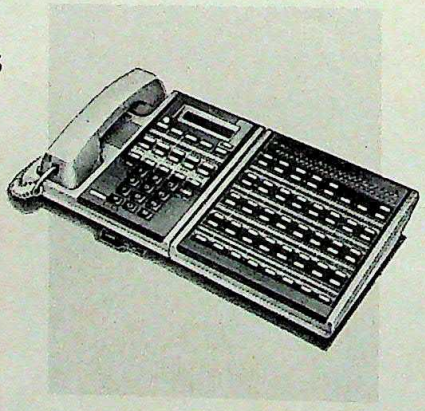
The communications equipment shown above is a part of the Digital EPABX System from Tata Telecom. One of the many that Tata Telecom manufactures to meet varying needs of diverse industries.

Digital EPABX Systems ranging from 25 to 7000 lines.

Systems with Stored Program Control providing advanced communication features.

Systems that have been assembled and tested on the finest machines available anywhere. With technology from Oki Electric Industry Company of Japan - the world leaders in the fields of telecommunication and information processing.

Backing all these is a Rs. 12 crore worth infrastructure that serves as the backbone for customer service.



Little wonder then why over 700 organisations in more than 16 core sectors of the industry have chosen communication systems from Tata Telecom.

Digital EPABX Systems from Tata Telecom. State-of-the-art technology that is relevant to today's needs and that of the future.

For more information on Tata Telecom Digital EPABX Systems, contact:

Tata Telecom Ltd.
E - 1/1, G.I.D.C. Electronics Estate, Sector 28, Gandhinagar 382 028. Tel: 21773, 21774.
Tlx: 0120-3231 TTLG IN.

DIGITAL EPABX SYSTEMS
FROM

TATA
TELECOM

TECHNOLOGY FOR THE FUTURE WORLD

Karishma/TT/138/2418

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

cause of Hindutva. At Ujjain, Advani was presented with a bow and arrow and a trishul and at Jabalpur, Damoh and Bhopal he was welcomed by youths applying tilaks of blood on their leader's forehead.

Although Advani publicly disapproves of slogans of hate and those that call for the destruction of the Babri Masjid, some of his speeches were no less provocative, as were those of his colleagues. The BJP leader and yatra organiser Pramod Mahajan even went to the extent of calling the Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister "Mulla Singh Yadav".

The yatra was undoubtedly a roaring success. Even in small villages and hamlets people waited for many hours to see the rath and cries of "Jai Shree Ram" rent the air. The chariot and a dummy vehicle following it became the new objects of worship. And women laden with coconuts, incense sticks and sandalwood paste offered *aarti* to the vehicles.

Advani, however, does not see the enthusiastic response as an indication of his or his party's popularity. "I am under no illusion that the popularity of the BJP is on the upswing. The response is all because of Ram *bhakti*," he said. But the BJP is bound to pocket the spillover of this abundance of Ram *bhakti*, which as Advani says he hopes to "convert into *rashtra shakti*". And intoxicated by all the adulation, he affirms that the issue of minorityism versus nationalism—"what you call the Hindu card"—will be his party's main election plank.

Even as his yatra made triumphant progress, other parties and Muslim leaders were cautioning the Government against allowing the rath to run riot over communal peace and harmony. All parties appealed to the BJP in Parliament that it must give up its plans of destroying the mosque to build the temple. And a meeting of prominent Muslim leaders chaired by the Imam of Jama Masjid, Syed Abdullah Bukhari demanded a ban on the rath. He said: "If the Government fails to do it, the Muslims of India may be compelled to take the matter into their own hands."

Advani knows too well that if he is arrested or the rath banned, it will help unleash yet more communal sentiments which cannot but help his cause. Also, whether or not the communal crowd that he leads to Ayodhya will be able to start construction of the temple, he and his party would have found a niche in the psyche of the hard-core Hindu.

—N.K. SINGH

Familiar Echoes

INSIDE EYE BY INDERJIT BADHWAR

AN insecure prime minister is known by the security he keeps. This was true of Rajiv Gandhi, a virtual prisoner of his bodyguards. This is becoming increasingly true of V.P. Singh. The tell-tale signs of a man slowly being driven into isolation by an outside world that has turned into enemy territory are as stark as a rainbow across a monsoon sky.

The most striking thing about V.P. Singh's ascent to the premiership was the descent of the Government from the clouds back to the earth. Openness and accessibility like the breezes of autumn were, suddenly, everywhere. He was the people's prime minister only 10 short months ago. Remember how he refused security arrangements at his Lodi Estate residence? And then, the man stunned everybody by daring to venture into Punjab, into the Golden Temple, into the crowds in Amritsar, bursting out of his security ring. The people were his friends, he said, his best security, their hearts his protective bunker. We applauded him.

But perhaps we were seeing in the flight of a solitary swallow a summer of endless change.

Last fortnight, the man who had once plunged into the teeming street crowds of Amritsar with his chest—and heart—bared open went to his own political backyards in the Hindi belt in a bullet-proof vest.

It was a metaphoric illustration of the circling wheel of Indian politics. The kind of shell that had grown over Rajiv since 1987 has begun to encrust Singh. We felt Rajiv's presence not because he went among the people but because of his ubiquitous security arrangements and his appearance at mass pep rallies.

Illustration by PRANAB DUTTA

Similarly, on October 8, Singh's presence was felt in Delhi, Varanasi, and Patna. He flew to Varanasi to offer condolences to the family of the late Kamalapati Tripathi and then to Patna to address a pro-Mandal rally. The streets of the capital leading to the airport simply crawled with armed policemen and commandos, at street crossings, on roof-tops.

The ride through Varanasi was like going through a curfew-bound town. The only thing that moved in the streets was the prime minister's motorcade of bullet-proof Ambassadors.

These armour-plated vehicles had also been flown to the next stop, Patna, where a 100-man detail of Special Protection Group Commandos had arrived three days earlier to make arrangements for the rally. The streets of Patna were an armed camp of police and paramilitary forces, eerily reminiscent of terrorist-torn Srinagar. The only difference was the people who had lined up to wave from behind barricades.

These days, V.P. Singh's security equals if not exceeds Rajiv's. He prefers to work more out of his home—Rajiv's old fortress on Race Course Road—than from South Block. He is suspicious of many of his loyal colleagues privately blaming them for his woes. And he ensures that any Doordarshan team that travels with him is adequately briefed about the angle of their coverage. And more than any other institution he has started making the press the scapegoat for his mounting misfortunes.

A tightening security noose. Increased reliance on intelligence officials and trusted bureaucrats. A distancing from former political loyalists. Mass rally offensives. Management of the official media. Attacks on the press. Haven't we all seen it before?

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

PUNJAB

Rejecting the Sops

No response to aid package, as Akalis harden stand

IF the Union Government's aim in announcing a special package for Punjab was to mitigate the anger against extension of President's Rule, it might have done better than to hold out stale carrots. Both the new aid package and the new advisory council to the state governor look suspiciously as if they have been recycled. And expectedly, they have met with derision. Former chief minister Prakash Singh Badal termed the advisory council a "mere drama". And Akali Dal (Mann) President Simranjit Singh Mann termed the economic package a "poor gift to a colonial state".

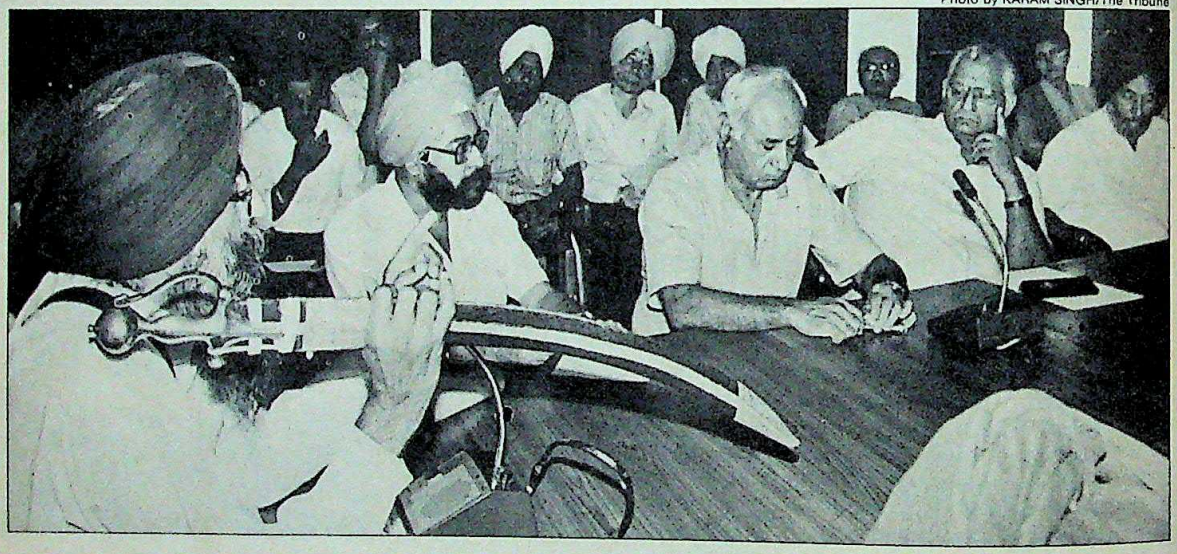
The new advisory council is little different from the one announced about eight months ago by Prime Minister V.P. Singh during a visit to Chandigarh. That failed to take off. This one is unlikely to fare any better.

Unlike the previous council, this one has statutory powers and intends to include, besides some of the MPs from Punjab, two representatives from each of the major political parties. But with the major Akali Dal groups unlikely to join, it seems doomed. The exclusion of Mann and another MP, Dhian Singh, doesn't improve matters.

In any case, few have illusions that the council will make any difference. Says Badal: "When nobody is listening to the governor, setting up a council to advise the governor will serve no purpose." A senior official feels that it will only confound the existing confusion: three retired bureaucrats are already advising the governor.

The economic package did not evoke a better response; only the left parties hailed it. Punjab Chief Secretary S.L. Kapur, however, insists it is more comprehensive than earlier packages as "it tackles the root of unemployment". A superficial look at the package does give that impression.

Photo by KARAM SINGH/The Tribune



Mann at Chandigarh meeting: broadbasing support

The problem, however, is that much of the plan is not time-bound, as is clear from a look at its salient features:

- Rs 100 crore for human resource development in three border districts;
- Recruitment of 10,000 youth into the army and paramilitary forces;
- Setting up of a petrochemical complex, five more sugar mills and four cotton spinning units;
- Establishment of a number of specialised institutes;
- Connecting flights for Delhi and Bombay from Amritsar, which will also have customs and immigration clearance.

Far from being an initiative on Punjab, therefore, the new announcements are a signal that the Government has run out of ideas in dealing with the Punjab situation. Even the passing of the bill extending President's Rule was a replay of events six months ago: with the Congress(I) abstaining from voting, the bill fell through when it was first introduced.

Within Parliament, Akali Dal (Mann) MP Atinderpal Singh caused a flutter by asking for a separate "flag and constitution" for Sikhs. Outside too, the various Akali groups hardened their postures. The Akali Dal (Badal) at a meeting in Chandigarh, in a departure from its earlier stance, decided to have "cohesion" with the militants. "Sikhs should stop seeking justice through democratic means," said a resolution at the meeting. Besides, none of the Akali Dals attended the all-party meeting called by the governor.

At the same time, the meeting called by the Akali Dal (Mann) was attended by representatives of Dalits, Bahujan Samaj Party, ex-servicemen, lawyers and human rights activists, including non-Sikhs. The meeting represented a clear attempt by Mann to mobilise more people including non-Sikhs to his line of thinking. But Mann himself was under pressure from his party, which ordered him to quit his Lok Sabha seat, an indication that the hardliners are gaining in strength.

So, far from maintaining the status quo, the Government's extension of President's Rule seems certain to take the state a step backwards. That the Government sees no light at the end of the tunnel is evident: unlike six months ago, V.P. Singh did not even promise to hold elections after this spell of President's Rule. —KANWAR SANDHU

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

The Swire Group

Like all our flight attendants, Annie Hui of Hong Kong was chosen for her unique Oriental grace and charm. As part of our team, Annie provides in-flight service that is as efficient as Hong Kong itself. Whether they come from Indonesia, Japan, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, India, Korea or Hong Kong, our flight attendants serve one single purpose. They help you arrive in better shape.

CATHAY PACIFIC
Arrive in better shape.

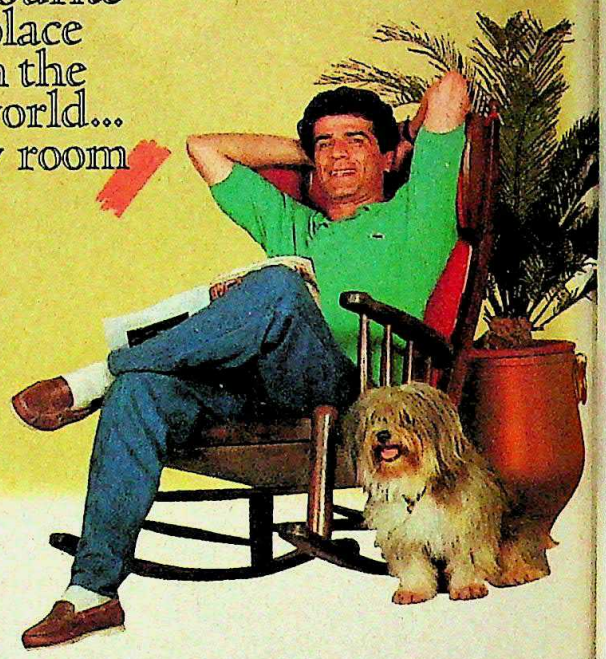
Chaitra-BCX 83

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

I feel passionately about some things. My room for one. With my PC, paintings and jazz. Ah! Also the colours. Carefully chosen. Even for the walls. Light Cream. Autumn Gold. Sun Beam. Corn Husk. Coral Softie. Shades of harmony and peace. From Superlac.

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

My favourite place in the world... My room



A dream made true by Superlac Acrylic Emulsion

Shalimar Paints

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Mudra:Cal:SP:590

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

COMMUNAL RIOTS

Rites of Ruthlessness

Spate of violence hits Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh

BRICKBATTING resulting in a blood-bath, angry mobs setting ablaze entire localities, mothers and their babies being brutally speared to death. The communal dance of death began to mount to a frightening crescendo last fortnight. What was particularly ominous was the lightning speed with which the virus spread to fresh territory. Relatively peaceful Karnataka witnessed a rash of riots. And so did communally sensitive Uttar Pradesh where violent clashes broke out in a number of townships and then spilled over to the countryside resulting in the extremely gruesome Gonda massacre. For the first time, names of obscure villages such as Kanje Mau and Pandey Chaura were being mentioned alongside the towns of Bhagalpur, Meerut, Moradabad...

Karnailganj tehsil of Gonda district—with a population of 70,000 of which 40 per cent are Muslims—had never seen a communal riot. But the BJP-VHP campaign on Ayodhya—particularly the VHP's Ram Jyoti processions—had ruptured the amity. And in an all-too-familiar sequence, the violence was triggered off by a procession—in this case a Durga puja procession. On September 30 the procession was attacked while passing through a Muslim dominated locality in Karnailganj township. One person died in the police firing.

Retaliation was swift and brutal. Muslim-dominated Parade locality was reduced to ashes. At least 12 persons were hacked to death. Among them were eight members of Aziz Ahmed's family. A week later, skulls were still being found in his home.

While Parade was just a stone's throw away from the police station of Karnailganj town, the forces preferred to look the other way. Admitted a senior officer: "They were so angry with Muslims that we somehow managed to save a big carnage by the jawans themselves." So when Mohammad Barkidi—whose brother was hacked to death in front of the police station—shouted for help, the guardians of the law told him to run away or else he would meet the same fate.

Not having fully wreaked their vengeance, the mobs next fanned out

Undoubtedly both the VHP and the local Janata Dal are equally responsible for the blood-bath.

Mulayam Singh Yadav; and (below) a riot victim in Gonda: gruesome incident

R.K. GUPTA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

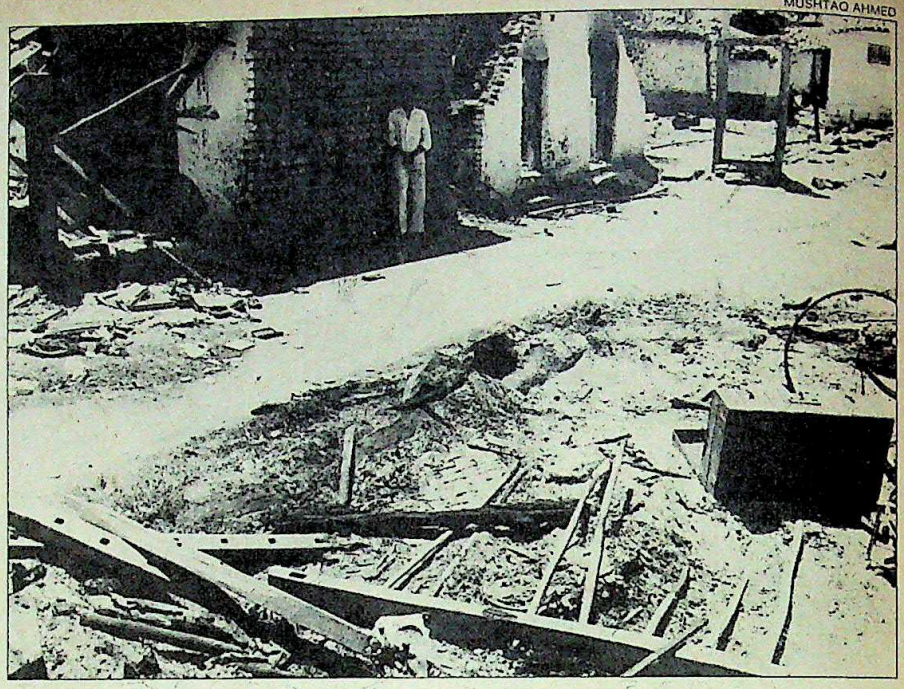
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

in the countryside. At least six villages—all with large Muslim populations—were attacked between October 1 and October 4. Worst hit were Pandey Chaura and Kanje Mau villages. Jamil Ahmed—a local tailor of Pandey Chaura—is living proof of the massacre. His father, mother, brother, wife, and four children—including a three-year-old daughter—were all hacked with trishuls and spears and then thrown into a well. Says Jamil: "I do not know how they could not find me."

The official death toll for Pandey Chaura and Kanje Mau is placed at 12 and six respectively, and for the entire Karnailganj tehsil at 41, but daily, more bodies are being found in fields, gutted homes, ponds and wells—making it a vast human tragedy that cannot be defined by mere figures.

The VHP is no doubt responsible for creating a communal rift. But the local Janata Dal also stands to share the blame. It appeared to have been countering Hindu fundamentalism with Muslim fundamentalism. After Chief Minister Mulayam Singh Yadav visited neighbouring Faizabad district last month, slogans appeared in Karnailganj, countering the VHP's slogans. One such graffiti read: "*Babar ban ke aayenge, mandir tera grainge.*" (We will come as Babar and destroy your temple). According to district officials, the slogan writing was organised by Yawar Husain, president of the Karnailganj Janata Dal unit and Taluqedar Khan, another party activist. Both men are lieutenants of local MP Munnan Khan who is close to Yadav. Moreover, the first bomb on the Durga puja procession, officials say, was hurled from Husain's home. The chief minister, however, continued to defend Munnan Khan and his men and recently said at a press conference that blaming Munnan Khan is like "*ulta chor kotwal ko daantey*" (like the thief blaming the policeman). Interestingly, though Yadav is currently posing as a champion of secularism, his government is yet to ban the Ram Jyoti processions which have triggered off clashes throughout the state—Rampur, Moradabad, Muzaffarnagar, Pratapgarh, Ghazipur....

MUSHTAQ AHMED



Patil (below); and communal clashes in Channapatna: dangerous frenzy

Hindus have become emotionally surcharged over the temple and Muslims have developed a siege mentality.

IN Karnataka, on the other hand, within four days of the first clashes in Kolar and Channapatna towns, the Government announced a ban on all processions. But by that time Hindu-Muslim amity had received a severe blow with the violence spreading to Davangere and Tumkur townships. After a week of communal frenzy the official death toll stood at 46.

Ironically, it was not the Ram Jyoti processions that triggered off the Karnataka mayhem. In Channapatna it was the teasing of a girl and in Kolar, the stoning of a shop. Still, as a senior police officer said: "For the past year, Hindus have become emotionally surcharged over the Ram temple while Muslims have developed a siege mentality. Both sides were prepared for a showdown." Moreover, in Davangere, the violence began after Ram Jyoti processionists attacked a mosque.

What compounded matters was the fact that chief minister Veerendra Patil was recovering from a stroke when the riots began. And even as communal frenzy gripped the state came the call for Patil's removal and then the imposition of President's Rule—adding further confusion to a state already deteriorating into communal chaos.

While Karnataka continued to reel under violence, a ghostly silence descended on the villages of Karnailganj. But even in the midst of grim tragedies there is generally a glimmer of hope—and in Pandey Chaura, it came in the form of Amarnath Singh, Main Bahadur and Jhabbar Tewari. The three saved at least 20 Muslims from being slaughtered by the mob. Says Main Bahadur: "We said kill us before you kill them and they left."

Unfortunately, on that day more people were out to take, not save, lives.

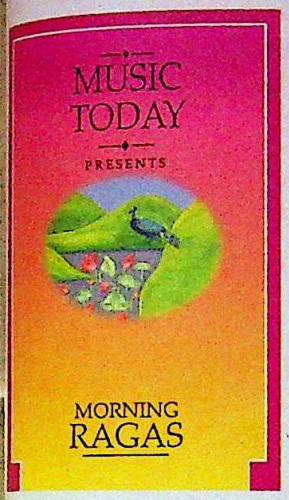
—DILIP AWASTHI
with YESHWANTH KUMAR

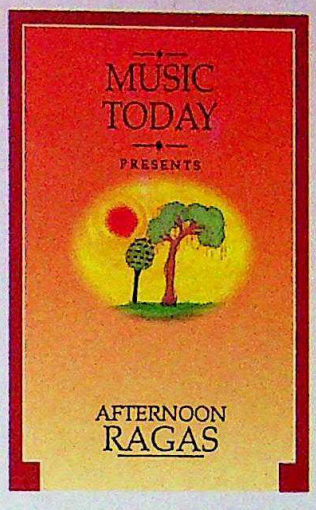
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

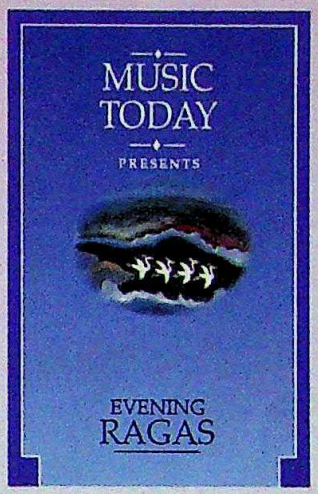
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

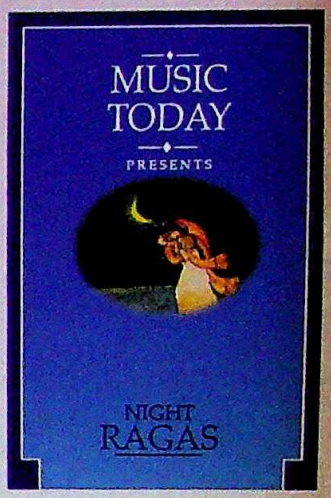
INDIA TODAY PRESENTS MUSIC TODAY. RAGAS FROM DAWN TO MIDNIGHT

A unique musical journey through the colours of the day and night.
On 16 one-hour cassettes. Ragas recorded and interpreted afresh by a stunning galaxy of musicians. Digitally mastered for pure sound fidelity.
And delivered at your doorstep by mail or courier.









Volume 1 (Code A90001)
LALIT
Rajan & Sajan Mishra: Vocal
BHAIRAV
Shahid Parvez: Sitar
AHIR BHAIRAV
Shruti Sadolikar: Vocal

Volume 2 (Code A90002)
MIAN KI TODI
Amjad Ali Khan: Sarod
BHATIYAR
Pandit Jasraj: Vocal
VIBHAS
Shruti Sadolikar: Vocal

Volume 3 (Code A90003)
JAUNPURI
Padma Talwalkar: Vocal
BILASKHANI TODI
Amjad Ali Khan: Sarod
DESI TODI
Hariprasad Chaurasia: Flute

Volume 4 (Code A90004)
KUKUBH BILAWAL
Mallikarjun Mansur: Vocal
DESHKAR
Shahid Parvez: Sitar
BHAIRAVI
Padma Talwalkar: Vocal

Volume 1 (Code A90005)
SHUDDH SARANG
Amjad Ali Khan: Sarod
SUGHRAI
Mallikarjun Mansur: Vocal
GAUD SARANG
Padma Talwalkar: Vocal

Volume 2 (Code A90006)
BRINDABANI SARANG
Hariprasad Chaurasia: Flute
MADHMAD SARANG
Pandit Jasraj: Vocal
DHANI
Shahid Parvez: Sitar

Volume 3 (Code A90007)
BHIMPALASI
Mallikarjun Mansur: Vocal
PATDEEP
Shruti Sadolikar: Vocal
MAND
Shahid Parvez: Sitar

Volume 4 (Code A90008)
MULTANI
Rajan & Sajan Mishra: Vocal
MADHUVANTI
Hariprasad Chaurasia: Flute
PILU
Amjad Ali Khan: Sarod

Volume 1 (Code A90009)
MARWA
Pandit Jasraj: Vocal
SHREE
Shruti Sadolikar: Vocal
HAMSADHWANI
Shahid Parvez: Sitar

Volume 2 (Code A90010)
POORIYA
Rajan & Sajan Mishra: Vocal
SHYAM KALYAN
Amjad Ali Khan: Sarod
NAND
Mallikarjun Mansur: Vocal

Volume 3 (Code A90011)
SHUDDH KALYAN
Padma Talwalkar: Vocal
MANJH KHAMMAJ
Hariprasad Chaurasia: Flute
DURGA
Rajan & Sajan Mishra: Vocal

Volume 4 (Code A90012)
YAMAN
Shahid Parvez: Sitar
SHANKARA
Pandit Jasraj: Vocal
MISHRA GHARA
Shruti Sadolikar: Vocal

Volume 1 (Code A90013)
SHUDDH NAT
Mallikarjun Mansur: Vocal
KEDAR
Padma Talwalkar: Vocal
JHINJHOTI
Hariprasad Chaurasia: Flute

Volume 2 (Code A90014)
BAGESHWARI
Pandit Jasraj: Vocal
HAMIR
Padma Talwalkar: Vocal
TILAK KAMOD
Shahid Parvez: Sitar

Volume 3 (Code A90015)
MALKAUS
Hariprasad Chaurasia: Flute
MARU BIHAG
Shruti Sadolikar: Vocal
JAIJAIWANTI
Rajan & Sajan Mishra: Vocal

Volume 4 (Code A90016)
NAIKI KANHRA
Shruti Sadolikar: Vocal
DES
Pandit Jasraj: Vocal
DARBARI
Amjad Ali Khan: Sarod

PRICE *(Including taxes, packing and forwarding)*

Per cassette	Rs. 45	
Buy 2 cassettes	Rs. 90	
Buy 3 cassettes	Rs. 125	Saving of over 7% on single cassette rate.
Buy 4 cassettes or more	@ Rs. 40 per cassette	Saving of over 11% on single cassette rate.

SPECIAL OFFERS

• FREE INDIA TODAY REGULAR SIZE ADDRESS BOOK. One time single order of 16 MUSIC TODAY cassettes entitles you to a free regular size INDIA TODAY ADDRESS BOOK costing Rs. 85.

• FREE INDIA TODAY COMPACT ADDRESS BOOK. One time single order of 8 to 10 MUSIC TODAY cassettes entitles you to a free compact INDIA TODAY COMPACT ADDRESS BOOK costing Rs. 50.

REGULAR **FREE** COMPACT

PLEASE NOTE

• Add Rs. 5 for outstation cheques (i.e. cheques outside Delhi)
• Cheques/Demand Drafts payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Delhi must be MICR only.
• For M.O. please clearly indicate the code number and quantities of cassettes ordered on the M.O. form as well as the receipt.
• **Cassettes will be home delivered by Registered Post/Courier.**
• Please allow a lead time of 3-4 weeks for delivery.
• For gift instructions please give recipient's name and address on a separate sheet.
• Please make payments favouring LIVING MEDIA INDIA LTD. and mail to MUSIC TODAY, P.O. Box 29, NEW DELHI 110 001.
• **If the attached order form is missing, Please mail your order alongwith name, address and remittance to MUSIC TODAY, P.O. Box 29, New Delhi 110 001.**

MAIL ORDER FORM

Product Code	No. of Cassettes
A 90001	_____
A 90002	_____
A 90003	_____
A 90004	_____
A 90005	_____
A 90006	_____
A 90007	_____
A 90008	_____
A 90009	_____
A 90010	_____
A 90011	_____
A 90012	_____
A 90013	_____
A 90014	_____
A 90015	_____
A 90016	_____

Yes, I would like to place my order for **MUSIC TODAY** cassettes as per details given below. I enclose my crossed cheque/Demand Draft/ Copy of Money Order receipt for Rs. _____ (add Rs. 5 for outstation cheques i.e., outside Delhi) payable to **LIVING MEDIA INDIA LTD.**
• Offer and rates valid in India only.

TOTAL NO. OF CASSETTES ORDERED _____

TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE Rs. _____

Please send my cassettes to

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Pin _____

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

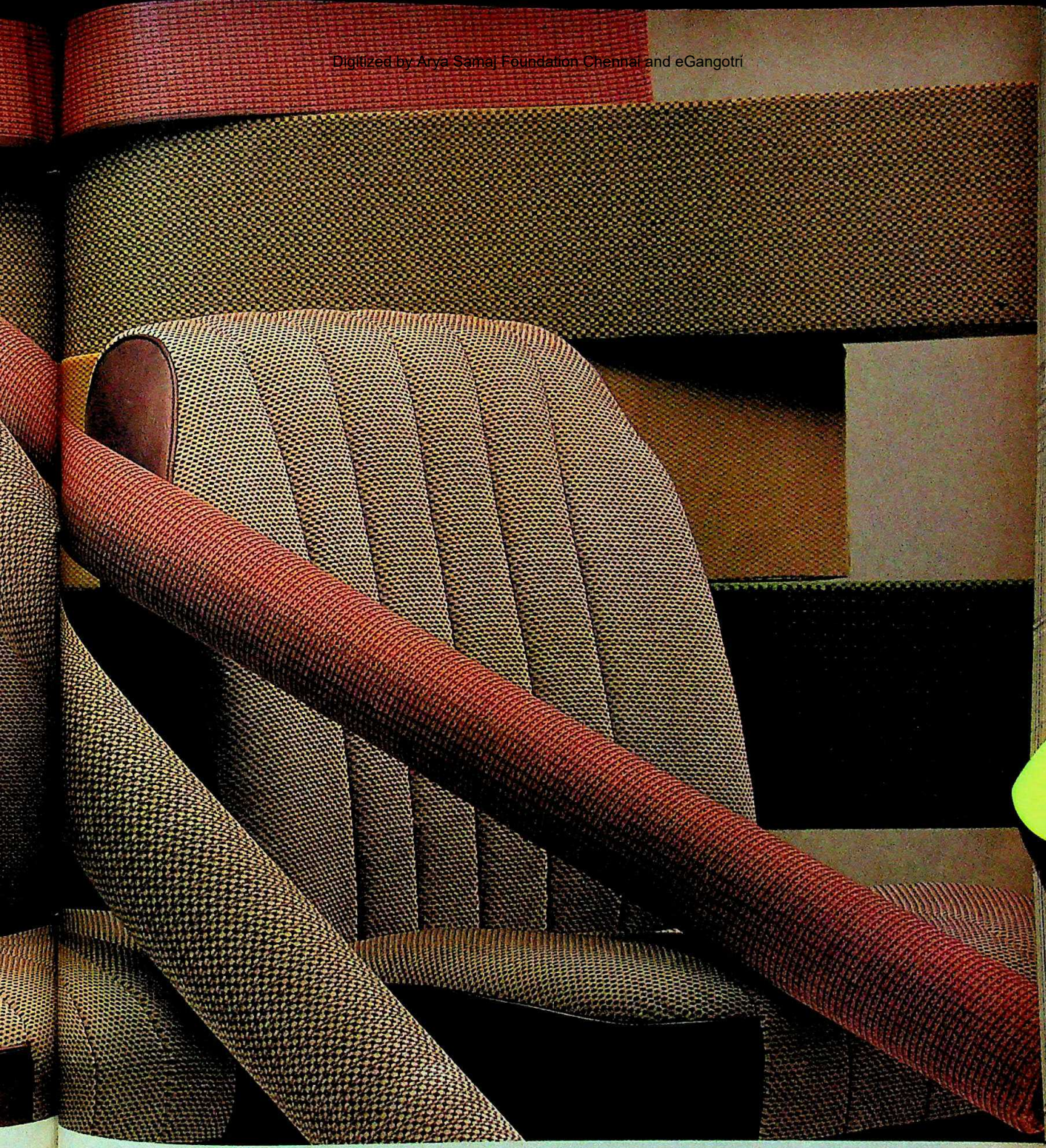
Body Language.
For Swanky Cars.

From the company that has always stood for elegance.
Rich, velvet fabrics so enticing, it's a shame you can't wear them.
Made on hi-tech Belgian looms.
With anti-static treatment to reject dust.

Andhra Pradesh • Boolchand & Sons, Visakhapatnam. **Bangalore** • Innovations, Commercial Street • Kwality Textiles, Kemp's Corner • FAB INN, Haji Ali • Chaturbhuj Ramchandra & Co., Dadar • 'A to Z', Dadar T.T. • Drape Shoppe, **Calcutta** • Poddar Bros., Chowringhee Centre • Times Furnishing, Park Street. **Delhi** • Jagdish Store, Karol Bagh and

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



elegance
you

lain, Fancy, Jacquard. In 137.16 cm width and a
ange of colours to suit every taste.
o forget Laura Ashley. And say goodbye to Schumacher.
wank has never been so chic.

Raymond's

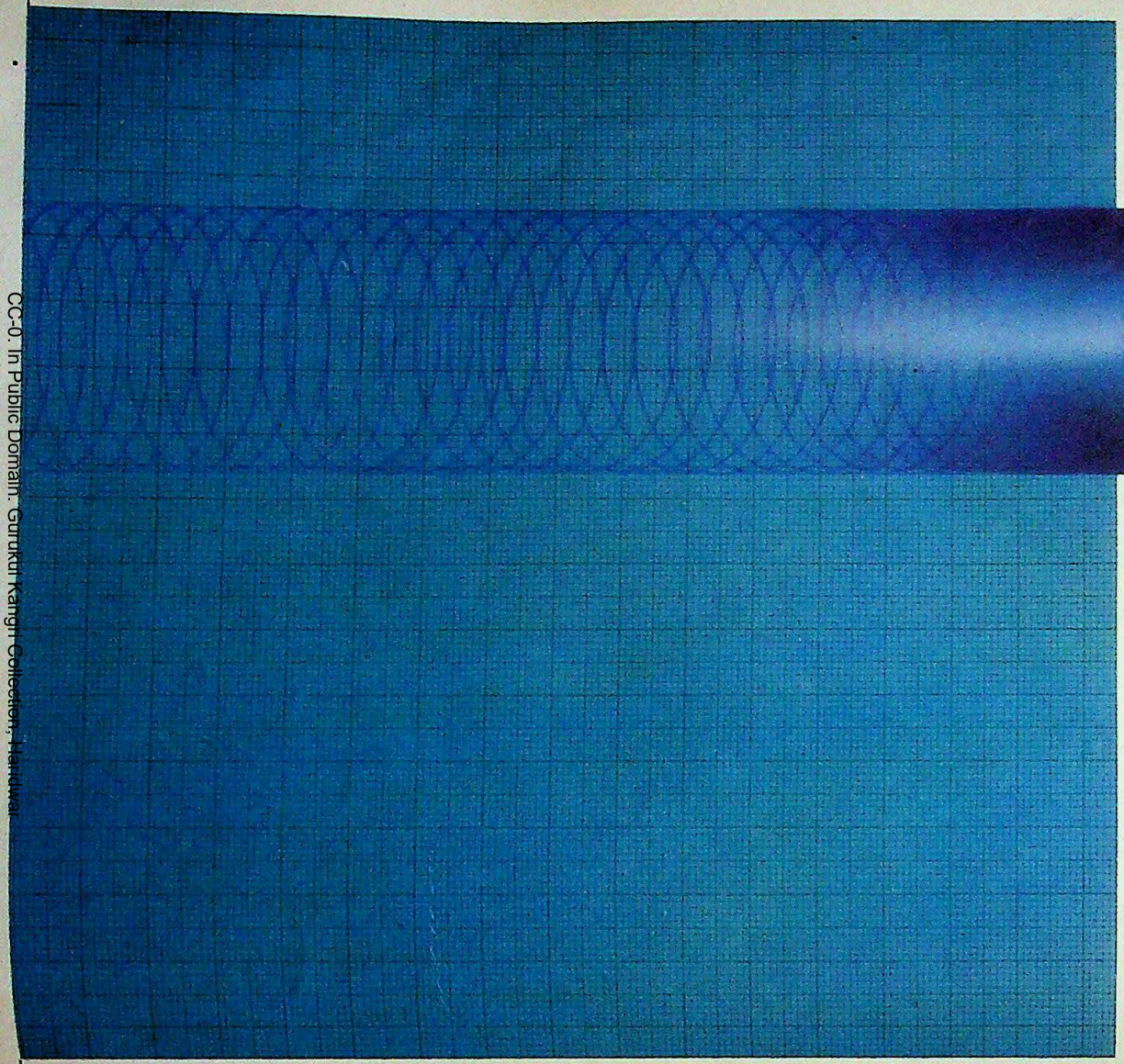
FURNISHING
FABRICS

G. Road. **Bombay** • Anokhee, Nariman Point • Pride International, Churchgate • Polite, Hughes Road • Bharat Furnishings,
king Road • Novelty Furnishings, Linking Road • One Up, Ghatkopar (E) • Anubhai Amarshi & Bros., Thane.
pat Nagar • Kailas Carpet Co., Connaught Place. **Madras** • India Furnishing, Mount Road. **Pune** • Shrihans Corpn.

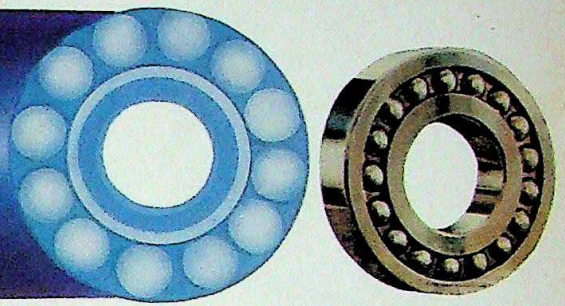
ity Textiles,
be,
gh and

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

MACHINE'S HEARTBEAT.



Moving the heart of the machines
(and competing nose-to-nose with world giants)



Bearings. One of the most critical inventions of humanity, making sophisticated engineering possible. The silent, pounding heart of the machines.
Manufacture of bearings is a high-tech process, requiring extreme precision and total dedication to quality. No wonder there are only a few manufacturers in India, their names resonant throughout the engineering industry: SKF, FAG Precision, NBC, Tata Bearings, Antifriction Bearings, HMT Bearings. For making this high-precision product, they import tubes from overseas giants.
And buy from Indian Seamless.

THE INDIAN SEAMLESS METAL TUBES LTD.

Regd. Office: 6E, Ramabai Ambedkar Road, Pune 411 001 (India)

India's most versatile seamless tube company

I·N·D·I·A·N S·E·A·M·L·E·S·S

PRESSMAN

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

CONGR

Ste

Rajiv

Y
of t
ou
journey
on Octo
and Sor
Gandhi
oath to
commu
on to a
Like
was c
kilometh
domina
clearly
with th
nity. Sig
jeep for
Masjid;
cover h
passed t
The
throne v
his elitis
Pyjama,
ity—dri
everythin
If R
to the p
nocating

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Regd. Office: 6E, Ramabai Ambedkar Road, Pune 411 001 (India)
India's most versatile seamless tube company
I·N·D·I·A·N S·E·A·M·L·E·S·S

SHARAD SAXENA

Sadbhavna Yatra: building bridges

CONGRESS(I)

Stepping Out

Rajiv woos the common man

YATRAS have become the fashion of the day. And not one to be left out, Rajiv Gandhi set forth on his journey—dubbed Sadbhavna Yatra—on October 2, Gandhi Jayanti. Rajiv and Sonia paid homage to Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat, administered an oath to Congress(I) workers to protect communal harmony, and then hopped on to an open jeep.

Like the date, the first day's route was carefully chosen: a seven-kilometre-long journey in the Muslim-dominated walled city. Rajiv was clearly going all out to build bridges with the alienated Muslim community. Significantly he stepped out of his jeep for the first time in front of Jama Masjid; similarly, he did not forget to cover his head when the cavalcade passed the historic Sis Ganj gurdwara.

The potentate in search of a lost throne was visibly at pains to live down his elitist image. Clad in a khadi kurta-pyjama, he was the picture of humility—drinking water or soft drinks everytime they were offered.

If Rajiv was trying to reach out to the people, the people were reciprocating the sentiment. Thousands thronged the streets and the line of demarcation between party workers and the common man soon faded.

There was much pomp and pageantry. Colourfully decorated white horses formed part of the convoy while elephant pairs arched their trunks as the cavalcade drove past. One innovation was machines installed at a few places along the route that blew rose and marigold petals.

As the procession inched along it took eight hours to cover seven kilometres. And matching her husband step for step was Sonia Gandhi. At the start of the yatra she was flanked by Delhi Congress(I) supremo H.K.L. Bhagat and Rajiv. But as more people held up their children to garland her or asked for an autograph, she switched places with Bhagat and patted the children. Said an elderly onlooker: "I see shades of Indiraji in her when she waves at the crowd and reciprocates cheers with a smile."

> **Rajiv was trying to live down his elitist image by mingling with the crowds.**

But there were discordant notes, mainly because of the choice of some participants. There was Sajjan Kumar, a local Congress(I) leader, currently being grilled by the CBI for his alleged role in the 1984 anti-Sikh riots, sporting the sadbhavna banner across his chest. Equally prominent was Jagdish Tytler who had reportedly attributed his defeat in the last elections to the antipathy of the Sikh community. Not to be missed was Buta Singh, hooted even by fellow partymen at the recent AICC(I) session for mishandling the communal situation before the 1989 polls. Some zealous supporters seemed to have missed the purpose of the yatra as became evident when they announced over the microphone: "*Jama Masjid se aiyee awaaz/ Rajiv Gandhi zindabad* (The voice has come from the Jama Masjid/ Long live Rajiv Gandhi)"

But none of this could dampen the enthusiasm of Mani Shankar Aiyer, Rajiv's controversial aide who walked the entire route alongside the former prime minister's jeep. "I am enjoying every inch of it," he said. Perhaps the biggest achievement of the entire exercise was that for the first time since the party's poll debacle, a large number of Congressmen, more accustomed to walking the corridors of power, were literally walking the streets.

—BHASKAR ROY

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

KERALA

Idle Power

Scheme utilises unemployed

AN idle mind is considered a devil's workshop. And it seems that the Marxists in Kerala certainly believe in that. If they have their way, many idle youth will soon be put to constructive work. On Gandhi Jayanti this year, the CPI(M)-led Left Democratic Front (LDF) Government launched a project that could well prove to be a model for the rest of the nation—harnessing unemployed youth to voluntarily work on development projects like building hospital wards, public shelters, roads, canals and so on.

SHANKAR

Vikasana Sena: constructive effort

> **Apart from the Congress(I), all parties may join the brigade, even the BJP.**

If such a project has any chance of succeeding it is entirely because the Marxists have the wherewithal to implement it. Their committed cadres who are entrenched through the length and breadth of the state will ensure that the project takes off. In fact, most of the volunteers for the newly established Development Brigade or Vikasana Sena come from the Democratic Youth Federation of India (DYFI), the youth front of the CPI(M).

The DYFI has promised to give 25 crore man-days as its contribution to the brigade and as many as 15 lakh members have signed up. The State Planning Board, in fact, formulated the plan only after the DYFI volunteered its services for development work. And the organisation was taken seriously because it has a tradition of doing voluntary work—for instance, in February this year the DYFI helped to create additional facilities in 60 hospitals in the state. Cooperation Minister V.G. Thankappan, who is in charge of executing the project, believes that it could well turn out to be a boon for Kerala.

If not all political parties agree, it is only because they fear that the strong DYFI presence in the Development Brigade would make the entire project into a CPI(M) show, which as a result may translate into more votes for Marxists in the next assembly elections. When the project was first mooted, even smaller ruling front partners like the CPI boycotted meetings called to discuss it. Eventually, however, most political parties—even the communists' sworn enemies, the BJP—promised to ensure that some of their youth force joined the brigade. The odd party out is the Congress(I). In fact the Youth Congress(I) President Pandalam Sudhakaran described the project as a ploy to build up the DYFI and collect funds for the CPI(M).

Not that the Development Brigade will consist solely of volunteers of youth wings of political parties. There are 31 lakh unemployed youth in Kerala of which 19 lakh are educated and the idea is to utilise these youths. To set at rest the apprehension that the project might cut into the already meagre employment opportunities, Chief Minister E.K. Nayanar announced that the brigade would only take up non budgeted work. The costs of all the projects would be borne by the people—on whom also rests the onus of deciding in which areas they need voluntary help.

The Government has earmarked Rs 2 lakh for each of the 987 panchayats in the state and part of this sum could be used to finance the costs of the work done by the brigade. But with the project already having acquired political overtones, the brigade is expected to make a headway only in the 527 panchayats that are controlled by the LDF.

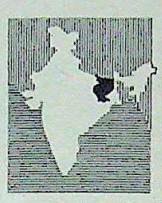
That is unfortunate. For even if the development brigade has been set up merely to build support for the CPI(M), in the process, it might have proved a small step towards building prosperity in the state.

—RAMESH MENON

BIHAR

Satiric Show

Political mockery at pandals



MIXING politics with religion is generally a formula for disaster, but in Patna the mix became a source for a great deal of entertainment and amusement.

During the Durga Puja celebrations last fortnight, in the capital city of Bihar there was one category of traditional puja pandals that showed off resplendent images of the goddess Durga in the act of conquering malevolent demons.

KRISHNA MURARI KISHAN

Cut-outs of politicians: comic relief

Then there was the other category—one with a difference—that displayed unusual kinds of 'idols'. These consisted basically of cartoons and caricatures that lampooned politicians.

And it was a telling comment on the times, that these pandals attracted more devotees than the traditional ones of the goddess. Providing the appropriate ambience to the already raucous scenario were bawdy songs from Hindi films. Said Lalbabu Rajak, the organiser of the Vishnu Puja Samiti at Langartoli: "We have tried to lampoon all those political creatures who are hypocrites and are playing a dubious role in public affairs." Rajak asserted the group's purpose was to "inform and educate the people" about the true colours of the politicians.

That may of course simply be a tall claim, but it is not altogether without substance. Rajak's caricatures time and again made the startling point. For example, there was the cut-out of Laloo Prasad Yadav, lampooning the fact that the chief minister has nine children. It showed him holding a placard in each hand. The first one proudly announced: "*Adhik santan, sukhi parivar: Laloo*

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

niyojan. (More children, happy family: Laloo planning.) while the other placard declared: *"Kam santan dukhi parivar: parivar niyojan."* (Less children, unhappy family: family planning.)

Then there was the caricature of Jagannath Mishra, which had him saying: *"Jahan hum pichre jati mein hain wahan hum arakshan ka samarthan karte hain, jahan hum forward jati mein hain wahan arakshan ka virodh karte hain."* (Wherever we have greater support among the backwards, we support reservation; and wherever we enjoy greater support among the forward castes, we oppose it.)

Another lampoon showed Rajiv Gandhi playing with the tail of a buffalo (Devi Lal), promising to make him the prime minister, while Chandra Shekhar was depicted as a snake rattling: "The Congress(I) government was better than the present one." V.P. was shown on a tiger, roaring: "Mandal Commission has been implemented in accordance with the Constitution. I will not go back on it." Ram Vilas Paswan declared on the side that he wanted reservations in religious places too.

Then there was a map of India that was divided on the basis of castes, coming in the wake of the Mandal Commission recommendations. Most of the attention however had been focused on satirising the political gimmickry within the Janata Dal and Laloo Prasad Yadav's excessively large family. Rajak said his group has always been lampooning the political scenario in the country, but never before have they had so many politicians to choose from. And the hordes who poured into the pandals certainly seemed to second this view by their very presence. Clearly, the truism that a good picture is worth more than a thousand words was more than amply evident. —FARZAND AHMED

BOTTOMLINE BY D. BUNKER

The Rath Race

IT'S the classic confrontation between the Church and the State. Or rather, the Temple and the State. As L.K. Advani's Chariot of Fire (in contrast to its air-conditioned interior) wends its relentless way towards Ayodhya, its nemesis, in the equally fiery form of Mulayam Singh Yadav, desperately looks for ways to stop it in its tracks. Failure to do so could leave countless dead. As the deadline approaches, Yadav decides that the people with the most experience of stalling anything are bureaucrats. So, he selects those with the most number of pending files to join his crisis management committee. Here's how the meeting goes.

Yadav *(translated from Hindi)*: We have to put a spoke in Advani's wheel. This could cost me my charpoy. The rat, I mean rath, must be stopped at all costs. All of you are past masters at the art of stopping files from moving. I want suggestions on how to stop the BJP rank and file from moving to Ayodhya.

Ist bureaucrat: Sir, we have to be firm. We cannot afford to be *mulayam* about this or we will all be singed. I have an ideal suggestion. Why not close down all the petrol pumps on the route of the rath. His van cannot run without petrol and it will also show how concerned you are about the oil crunch.

2nd bureaucrat: That's all gas. I have a better idea. Why don't we change all the road signs approaching Ayodhya so that Advani's chariot takes the wrong route and lands up in the wilderness. I was told to do this once by Mani Shankar Iyer during the last elections when V.P. Singh was going to address a rally in Manda.

Yadav: Did it work?

2nd bureaucrat: No.

3rd bureaucrat: I have a better idea. Make a deal with Tikait to blockade the road with his farmers. I was once asked by V.P. Singh to make a deal with Tikait to lay siege to Delhi when Rajiv was prime minister.

Yadav: Did it work?

3rd bureaucrat: No. Tikait waited till V.P. Singh became prime minister and then laid siege to Delhi.

4th bureaucrat: Why don't we ask the Muslims to flood the road with cows? That is one holy cow the BJP cannot cross.

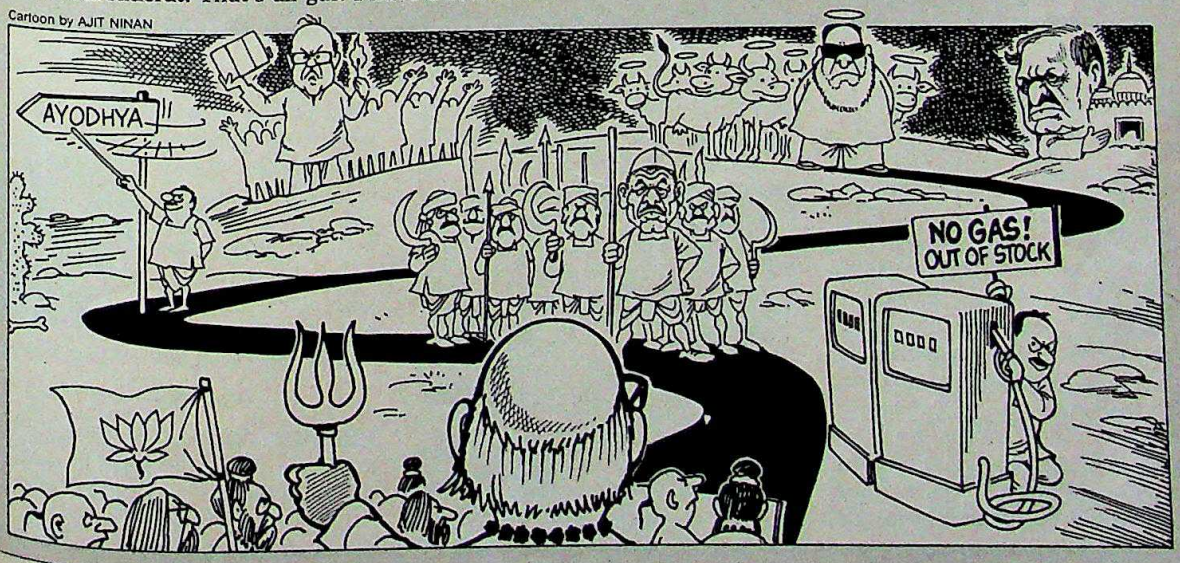
Yadav: That's a lot of bull. The roads in Uttar Pradesh are already flooded with cows. A few more will hardly make a difference. We must think of something more dramatic that will rally the entire country behind us.

5th bureaucrat: Sir, I have it. Ask V.P. Singh to commit self-immolation in front of the temple unless the BJP stops.

Yadav: Suppose the BJP goes ahead?

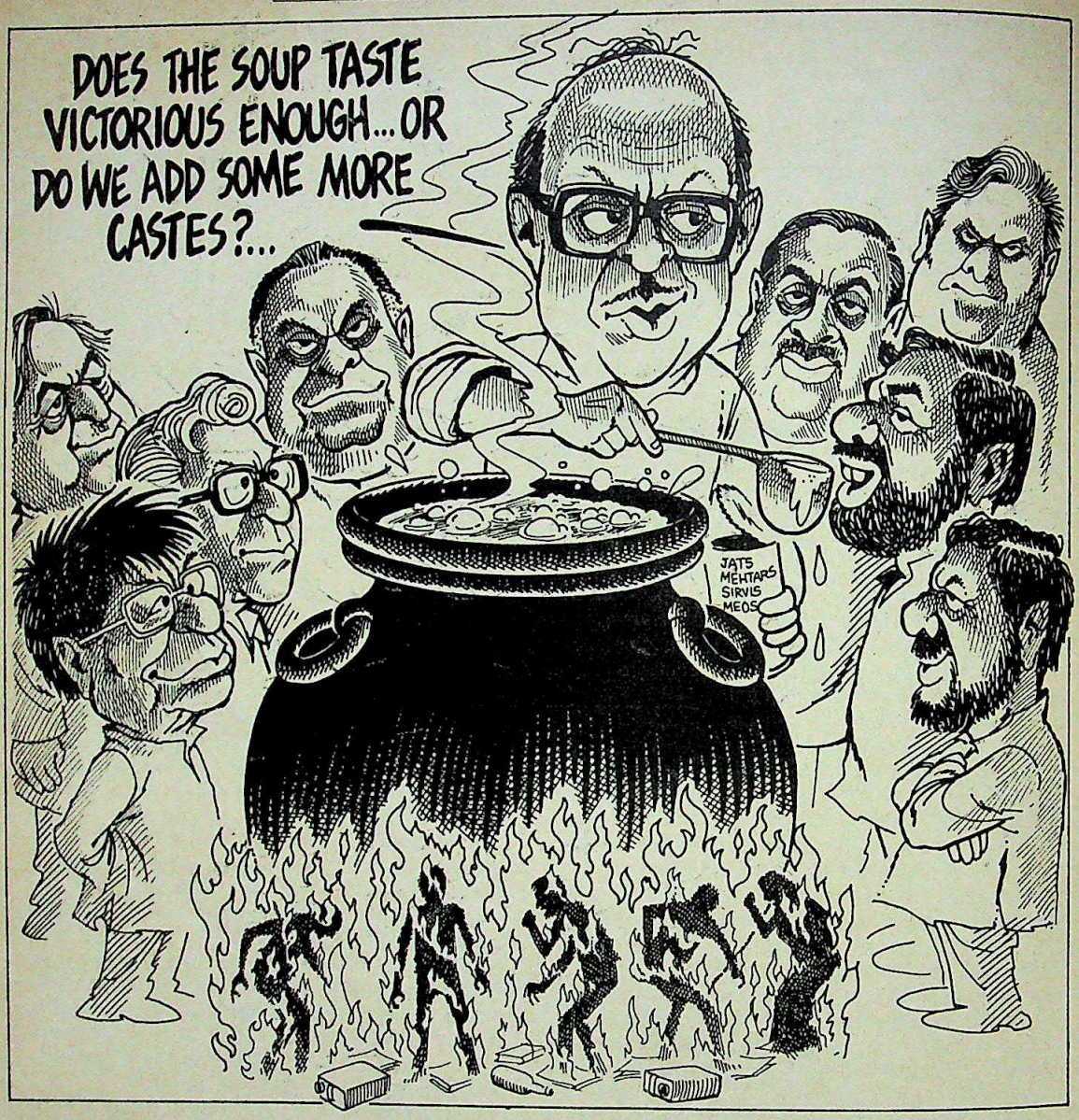
5th bureaucrat: That's the beauty of the plan.

Cartoon by AJIT NINAN



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



SIGN POSTS

DIED: Kamalapati Tripathi, 85, veteran Congress leader. The last years of his life were marked by disillusionment. His letters to Rajiv Gandhi reflected his deep anguish at the way the party was being run—a tragic epitaph for a political career full of sacrifice and loyalty.

DIED: Ustad Zia Mohiuddin Dagar, 62. An exponent of Indian classical music, his innovative style transformed the veena into a living instrument.

DIED: Mukesh Aggarwal, 40, businessman husband of film star Rekha. The marriage was already on the rocks. But the controversy surrounding Aggarwal's suicide—he hanged himself at his Delhi farm house—has been bad for the star's image. She was in the US at the time of the incident and did not show up for the funeral. More messy is the fact that the Aggarwal family blames her for Mukesh's death. "She has devoured my brother and destroyed our family," said his brother Anil.

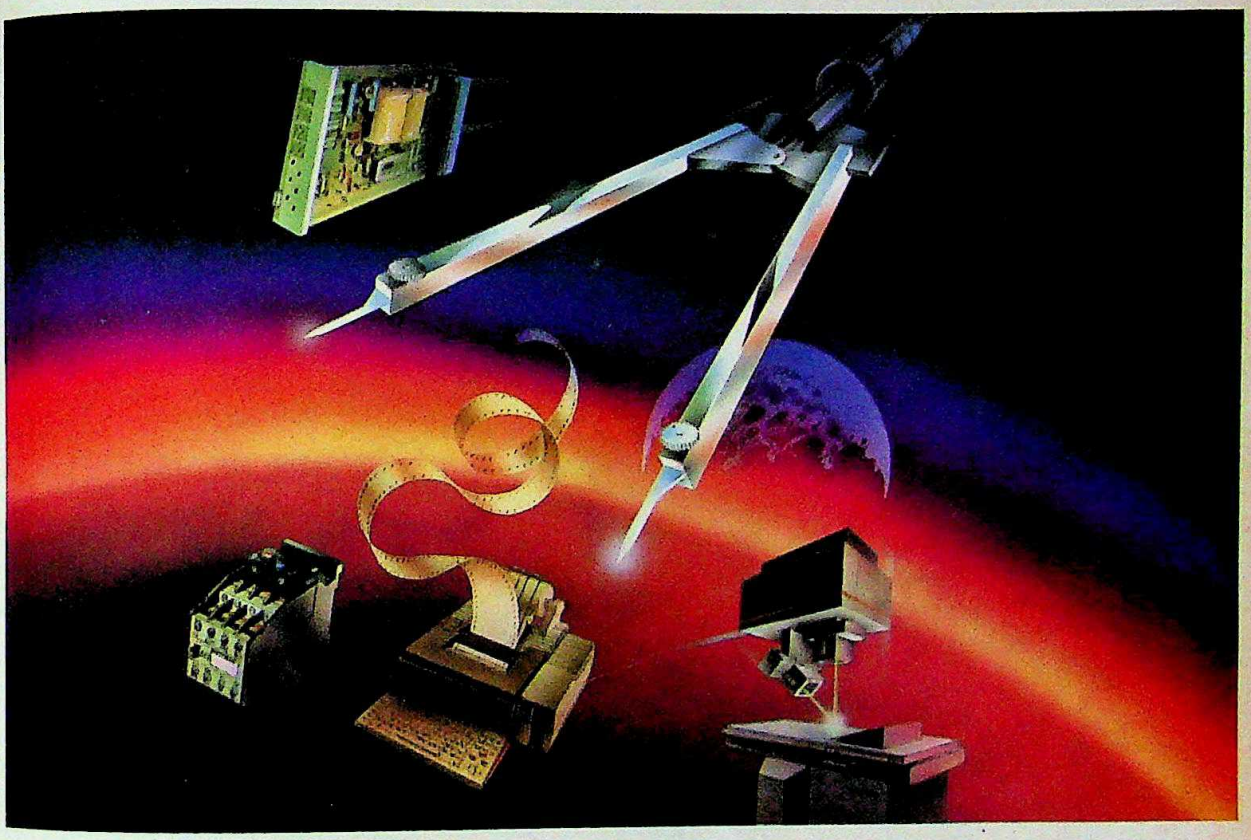
CHARGED: Sridevi, popular film actress, with threatening a Madras airport manager for denying entry to her relatives with no tickets. She even threatened to take the matter up with Union Civil Aviation Minister Arif Mohammed Khan.

PREVENTED: Devi Lal, former deputy prime minister, from placing a wreath at Rajghat, by security personnel. The guards relented only after he threatened to stage a dharna there.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

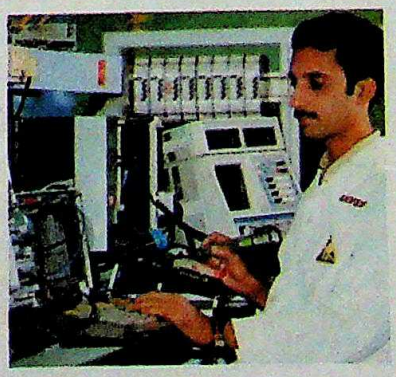
SIEMENS



Measured Steps

At Siemens, quality is an intangible made tangible. Something that can be exactly and precisely measured.

A well-defined logistics chain makes up the Siemens quality system. One link depends on the other: application-oriented development upon practice-oriented research; fault-free products upon gruelling load and endurance tests; prompt, efficient service upon complete and accurate maintenance schedules. Quality is part of every function, every procedure. In other words, quality is planned, designed, tested, built, verified, installed and serviced.



Not just product excellence, but the quality of every function and procedure, that's 'Siemens Quality'.

Whatever the area of application–control and automation systems, railway signalling equipment, medical electronics, switchgear, switchboards, drives and motors, turnkey projects, new dimensions in telecommunications–Siemens brings its concept of quality to bear on every product, system or project.

By so precisely defining the indefinable, Siemens makes the highest level of quality attainable, not by chance but consistently, time after time.

Siemens Ltd.,
P.O. Box 6597, Bombay 400 018.

Siemens.
Where international technology meets human needs.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

KARNATAKA

Unconstitutional Coup

The hasty imposition of President's Rule after Veerendra Patil defied the high command has forced the Congress(I) to close ranks.

AFTER it was all over it was just the muted words of defiance from a paralysis-struck chief minister that echoed. To the Congress(I), however, it meant the sullying of the institution called the high command which the party had built up through years of diktats and dismissals. The revolt was sput down ruthlessly proving that in the Congress(I) the modus operandi doesn't change. Only chief ministers do.

The Congress(I) high command's dictatorial method of asking its chief minister Veerendra Patil to quit was matched by the authoritarian and immoral way in which President's Rule was imposed in Karnataka. The CPI(M) regretted the misuse of Article 356 and L.K. Advani termed it a hasty decision. In a brutal stroke the Janata Dal had sacrificed an ideal it fought for. And its party president S.R. Bommai and former chief minister Ramakrishna Hegde conveniently dumped their idealism and backed an unethical act, going against what they has said in April last year when their government was removed.

The serious issue of a chief minister's defiance of the party diktat was solved by Patil's removal as CLP leader but it set a dangerous precedent. For almost a year now the Congress(I) chief ministers were not giving the party President Rajiv Gandhi the obeisance he expects. The worst culprit was Veerendra Patil who among other things, expressed his unhappiness about the high command's nominees to his ministry by postponing the cabinet expansion.

Such impertinence was unheard of in the Congress(I). It was obvious that the high command would hit back and Rajiv had said that no chief minister could survive without the blessings of the high command.

The chance came on October 3, more than a week after Patil was struck by paralysis, when unprecedented riots broke out in Karnataka following the whipping up of communal passions by the Rath Yatra. Forty-six people were killed as the state looked on helpless.

Rajiv landed in Bangalore on the night of October 6 in a Dornier aircraft.

MUSHTAQ AHMED

Patil had angered both Rajiv Gandhi and the state party chief by refusing to bow to their wishes and was made to pay the price.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

He drove straight to 'Cauvery' the residence of Patil, bounced up the stairs to the sprawling bedroom. Patil could not get up from his chair to greet his party chief. The two shook hands, while Patil smiled. Concerned at the chief minister's state of health, Rajiv Gandhi made various suggestions for treatment. Later he visited riot-hit Channapatna where 19 people had been killed, but had to cancel plans to go to Davangere, the textile city where 16 were butchered in communal clashes since the helicopter did not have fuel. For that shortfall, he snubbed the minister of law and parliamentary affairs, Veerappa Moily.

But the medicine which Rajiv had reserved for Patil was an excruciatingly bitter one. Just a few moments before boarding the Dornier aircraft to go to Madras to unveil a statue of MGR, he dismissed Patil. Brushing aside an aide who suggested that he have a wash, saying "let me talk to the press first," he calmly dropped the bombshell: the Government would be changed "in four days". According to him Patil's health was giving him a great deal of trouble, and he would not be able to work for at least four weeks.

A meeting of the Congress(I) Legislature Party (CLP) would take place on October 10 to elect a new leader. Said Rajiv: "What I have seen on the field, a lot needs to be done and we cannot be in that sort of a situation. I don't think relief has arrived yet to the people as it should have." Asked if Patil had volunteered to step down, Rajiv smiled and said: "Let the meeting take place. Patilji is really not well."

But as it turned out Patilji was well enough to defy the party president with a rare and surprisingly composed show of defiance—a quality unknown and unseen among Congress(I) chief ministers. The country watched awestruck as Patil, his face contorted by the stroke and words stifled by pain, mumbled at the television cameras that he would not quit. A Congress (I) chief minister had at last said 'no' to the high command.

How bitter the meetings between Rajiv and Patil were is not known but according to PCC(I) President Oscar Fernandes, Rajiv told the chief minister of the decision to hold the CLP meeting on October 10. Patil told reporters that he was not told to resign. Said he: "I made it clear to him that the question of leadership can be decided only by the CLP and not by the high command. Mr Gandhi agreed with me."

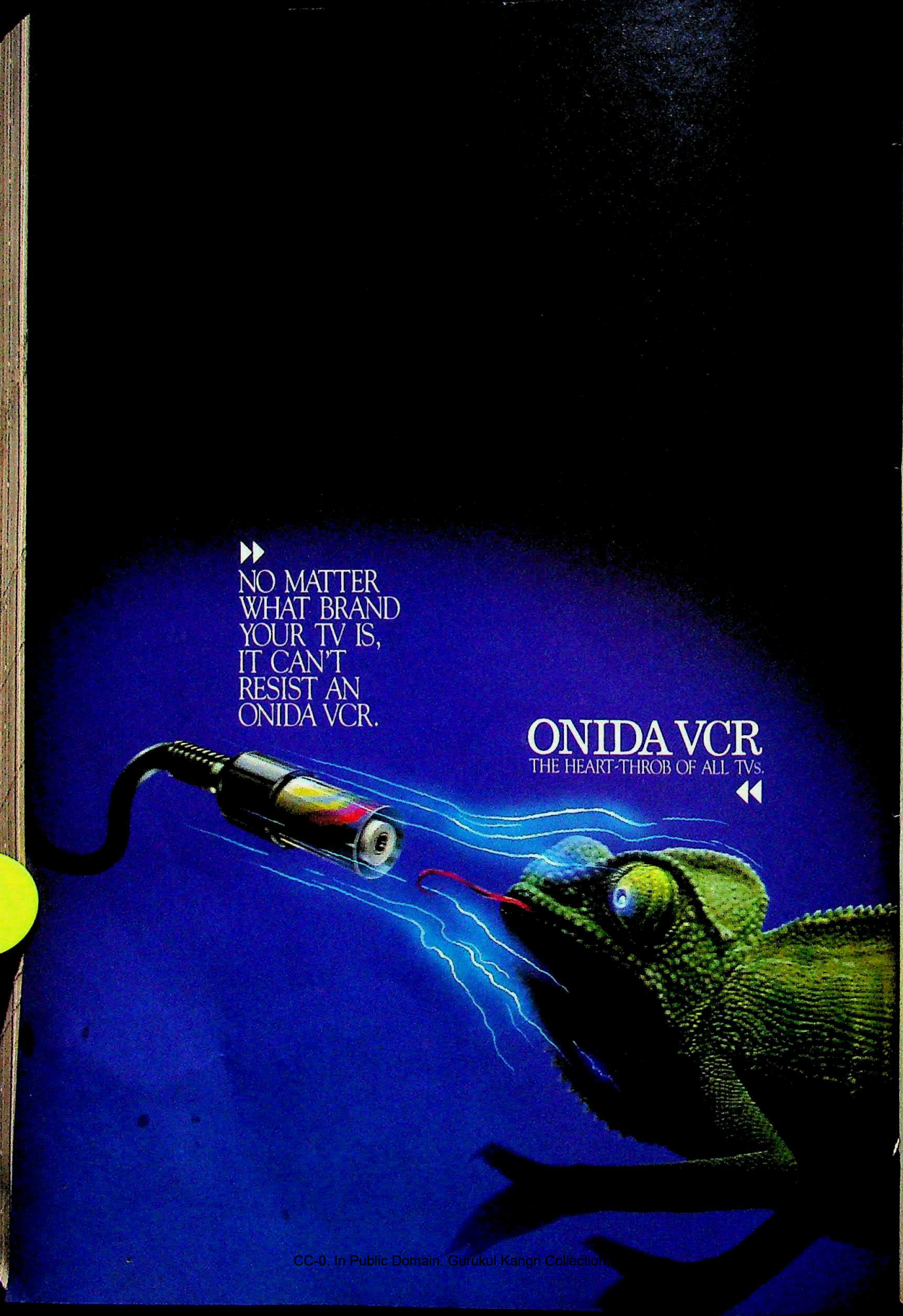
For two days there was a constitutional deadlock. Patil who as chief minister has to convene the CLP, refused to do so and the Governor, Bhanu Pratap Singh, subsequently said he would not recognise the validity of the CLP without the chief minister. And then on October 10, the date Rajiv set for the election of a

Patil (left); and Rajiv with party leaders after meeting the President

PRAMOD PUSHKARNA

In ordering Patil to resign, Rajiv seemed to have bitten off more than he could chew. Not only did Patil hold firm, the dissension in the Congress(I) gave the governor an excuse to impose President's Rule.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

MUSHTAQ AHMED

Bhanu Pratap Singh meeting Congress(I) MLAs

BHANU PRATAP SINGH

"I want democratic rule"

KARNATAKA Governor Bhanu Pratap Singh, 73, was at his farm near Lucknow, when the political crisis erupted. He rushed back to Bangalore in a special aircraft on October 8.

He spent three hours studying the Constitution before recommending imposition of President's Rule. Later, Singh spoke to Senior Correspondent C.B. YESHWANTH KUMAR. *Excerpts:*

Q. ***What prompted you to act?***

A. I took the decision because of three factors—the disturbed communal situation, continued sickness of the chief minister and lack of unanimity in the ruling party. I would have ignored the bickerings but for the communal violence.

Q. ***Why didn't you recommend dissolution of the Assembly?***

A. I want to restore democratic rule in the state as soon as possible.

Q. ***Why didn't you wait till the Congress(I) resolved its crisis?***

A. The communal situation was going from bad to worse. I drafted my letter to the President after reading press reports of the disturbances. I had also received intelligence reports that the communal frenzy was spreading fast.

Q. ***Was it the law and order situation that prompted you?***

A. Well, if the chief minister had been hale and hearty, it would have been his headache.

Q. ***But Patil had consistently said he was fit to rule the state.***

A. I think he is improving, but still cannot move about.

Q. ***Why did you refuse to recognise the meeting of the*** CLP***?***

A. No formal notice was given to me. According to CLP rules at least seven days notice is to be given. It is an internal party matter, why should I take cognizance of it?

Q. ***Did the Centre put pressure?***

A. No, none. I acted only after satisfying myself.

Q. ***Did you consult any experts?***

A. Yes, but only after I drafted my letter to the President. Then I showed it to the advocate-general.

Q. ***How soon would you expect popular rule to be re-established?***

A. I would like it very soon. I'm giving an opportunity to the party to resolve its differences.

Q. ***Did the decision upset you?***

A. Yes, I really did not bargain for this kind of situation.

Q. ***What would be your priorities under President's Rule?***

A. My first priority is restoring law and order. Then putting down corruption to the extent possible.

new chief minister by the CLP. President's Rule was imposed and the Assembly held in suspended animation.

The Governor Bhanu Pratap Singh said that it was the law and order situation that prompted him to act as he did (*see interview*). And he defied convention by issuing a blatantly political statement. "What locus standi does Rajiv Gandhi have in respect of the state government?" he asked as if he was trying to defend the stand that Patil took.

In fact, Patil is believed to have agreed to quit thrice. But it is his finance minister Rajshekar Murty who encouraged him to defy the high command's directives backed by two other ministers H.R. Raju and M.S. Atmananda. The minister for public works G. Puttaswamy Gowda tried in vain for a rapprochement.

THE gates of the chief minister's residence 'Cauvery' were closed on October 9 as a team of physiotherapists led by Dr Mahendra worked on Patil's hands and legs in his bedroom on the first floor. Despite the chief minister's brave assertion that he is normal, he is unable to write. The physiotherapists have to help him hold a pen and then scribble on paper. He managed to utter a few syllables to small batches of MLAs who called on him. He is obviously mentally alert and looked relaxed and wrote a letter to the governor claiming to have the support of over 103 MLAs.

And he convened a cabinet meeting in his bedroom which was attended even by those ministers who had sent in their resignation letters to the party high command.

Even as the Assembly remains in suspended animation, the game of numbers is on. The Congress(I) has a whopping 178 members in the 225-seat Assembly and the next biggest congregation is of the Janata Dal with a pathetic 24 members. The Janata Dal which only on October 6 had demanded the resignation of Patil for failing to control the riots, did a volte-face and promised all support to its new-found hero Veerendra Patil to

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

form a ministry though it is highly unlikely that a significant number of Congress(I) MLAs will stick their necks out and stand by Patil. "One thing is sure. Patil will not be able to win an election wihout the backing of the Congress and Rajiv Gandhi," said an MLA who is a staunch supporter of Patil.

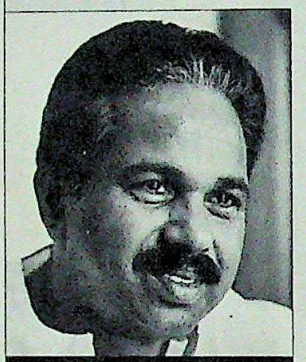
Patil's style of functioning did not endear him to his legislators, a factor which cost him dear in his hour of trauma. He did not consult Fernandes even on nominations to the legislative council and even ignored leaders like AICC General Secretary C.K. Jaffer Sharief. On September 17 Sharief had made a sharp attack on Patil saying power was concentrated in the hands of two cabinet ministers, referring to Murthy and Patil. The warning signals were getting clearer.

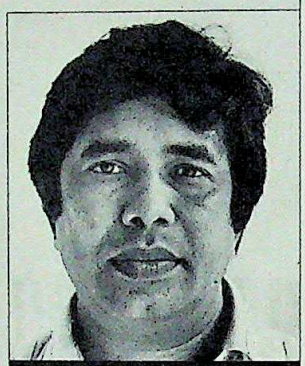
On October 6, Patil handed over the home portfolio to education minister K.H. Ranganath only after demands from the PCC(I) executive. The chaos in the state unit of the Congress(I) had revived old dreams in many party veterans to become chief ministers. Among those who were mumbling their intentions of trying for the chief ministership were former Union minister B. Shankaranand, former chief minister Gundu Rao, cabinet ministers S. Bangarappa, M. Veerappa Moily and Janardhan Poojary. But none of the aspirants were able to individually garner the support of even a dozen MLAs. And as always it was the loyalty factor that was being flogged for all it was worth, Poojary and Shankaranand excelling at it.

The crisis also saw the nearly forgotten trouble-shooter of yore, G.K. Moopanar back in the political centre-stage and he seemed to be enjoying the part. He played a key role in trying, though unsuccessfully, to persuade Patil to convene the CLP meeting. And despite a power failure for 30 minutes in the party publicity office in the Bangalore Palace grounds, he claimed to have talked to more than 100 MLAs, apart from other leaders.

B. SHANKARANAND

S. BANGARAPPA


VEERAPPA MOILY


OSCAR FERNANDES

Loyalty to Rajiv could be a crucial factor in deciding the controversial leadership issue.

If Moopanar along with party observers Mahavir Prasad and later Jaffer Sharief was trying to hold the huge number of Congress(I) legislators together, in Delhi the party high command tried to strike a defensive posture and petitioned the President against removing the state Government.

THE memorandum that Rajiv Gandhi submitted read like a complaint against his own party chief minister. "A chief minister who has lost the support of the majority of the House has no constitutional authority or power to advise the Governor to dissolve the Assembly," the memorandum said.

And lest Rajiv's extremely clumsy move to remove a non-pliable chief minister be interpreted as an insult to the popular sentiments in the state, a move was made to counter that by getting V.N. Gadgil to say: "The Governor's action will hurt the self-respect of the people of Karnataka."

The imposition of the President's Rule in a state where the ruling party enjoys four-fifth majority was the Janata Dal's way of finally getting back at the Congress(I) for having dismissed the Bommai government last year even though it still had a majority.

Now Bommai was sitting on the other side of the fence and along with Ramakrishna Hegde was instrumental in convincing the Centre that the Congress(I) government should be removed. The Governor should not have shown undue haste in recommending the removal of the Government especially as it had such a majority and he could have given time to even Patil to prove his majority in the House.

The decision attracted a lot of flak and in the process helped Rajiv deflect criticism against the way he had done away with Patil. Rajiv promptly termed it an undemocratic act. The People's Union for Civil Liberties also termed it an "undemocratic and arbitrary act" and surprisingly the Secretary of the non-controversial Gandhi Peace Foundation, V. Krishnaswamy, announced a fast unto death in his personal capacity to protest against the decision. The dismissal further went on to prove the National Front Government's uncanny knack of inviting political trouble.

President's Rule came as a blessing in disguise for the Congress(I) as the legislators immediately closed ranks fearing that the Assembly might be dissolved if a leader is not elected soon enough. It is doubtful that Patil will get more than a couple of MLAs to support him as he has been thrown into political wilderness for his act of defiance. The way in which he was dumped will remain etched. And like the unforgotten and humiliating removals of chief ministers like Anjaiah and Harideo Joshi not too long ago, the political reprisal for the Congress(I) could still come.

—BINOO K. JOHN
with C.B. YESHWANTH KUMAR

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Zodiac for Carlo Bernini

As usual the Italians are flirting with the latest, hottest number.

Here's the line the passionate Italians are falling for. Zodiac. Exported to Europe's leading fashion houses. The international look of the season is now available in India. Check it out. And you'll see what makes Carlo whistle with such fervour.

The soul of Europe. The spirit of Zodiac.

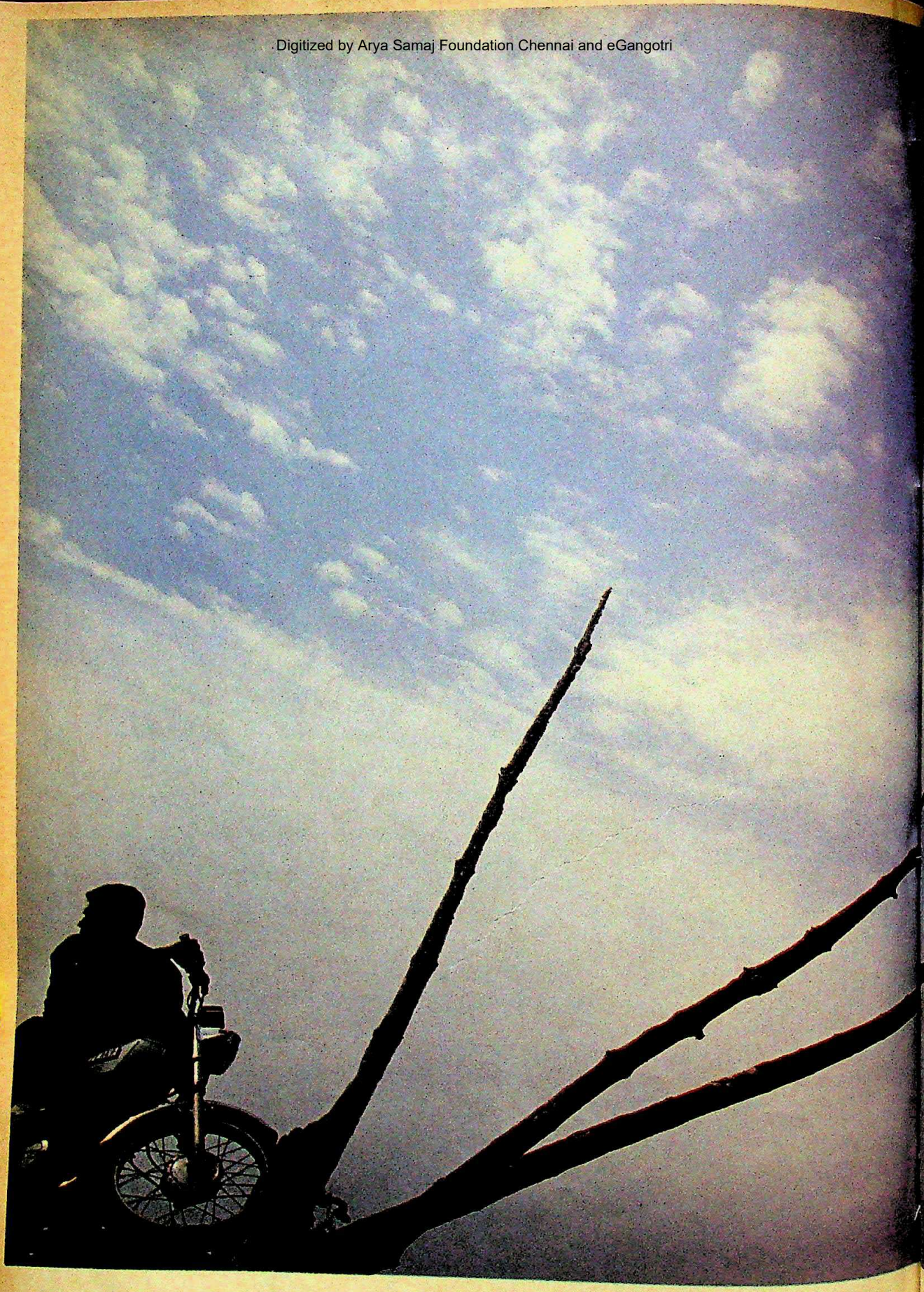
Z O D I A C

SHIRTS TROUSERS TIES SOCKS BELTS WALLETS HANDKERCHIEVES

Only 10% of Zodiac's production is sold in India.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



LINTAS IND S 3 27 38

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ZEN AND THE ART OF MOTORCYCLE MADNESS

"My first bike. I bunk office. Escape the memos, the telephones, the peppermint-breath boss. The smell of new motorcycle: metal, oil, grease. I swear no other guy will touch her. Take-a my girl, but don't touch-a my bike. Hey! Is there anybody out there who knows how I feel? Or am I the only motorcycle freak in the world? 4th gear. Power. Kee-yah!"

What is this passion that a man feels for his motorcycle that compels him to buy Castrol Super TT? When it's tougher to find than any other engine oil? When it's more expensive? The Buddhist teachings of Zen say: some things in life should not be explained. But merely experienced.

CASTROL SUPER TT

TWO-STROKE OIL FOR UNCOMPROMISERS

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

KERALA

The Gulf Doom

With tens of thousands of Malayalees returning from the Gulf, destitute and jobless, the state appears to be in for a major socio-economic crisis.

By RAMESH MENON

WHEN Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait on August 2, he might as well have sent a couple of hundred tanks into Kerala. The consequences for the tiny south Indian state couldn't have been more disastrous than they are.

For Kuwait accounted for a full one lakh of the eight lakh Malayalees in the Gulf. By the end of October, all of them will be back home—to a bleak future. In a state which has 30 lakh unemployed, few stand much chance of landing a job. Equally dismal is the future of their dependents. Their opulent life-style, backed by an unending flow of petrodollars, threatens to come to an abrupt end.

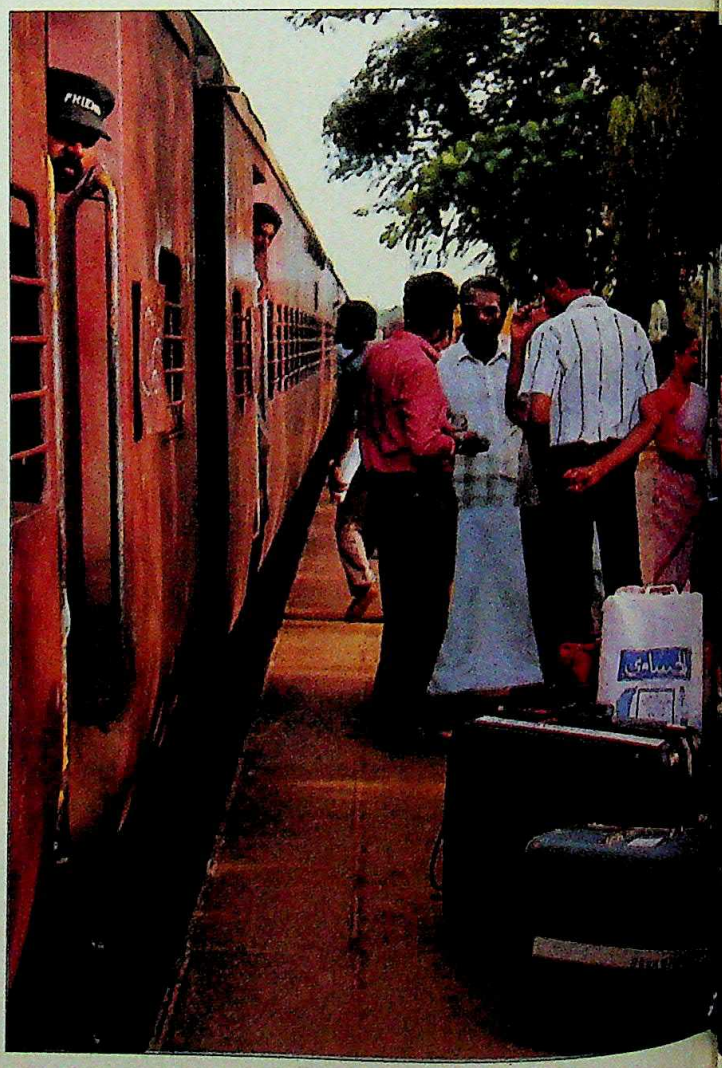
The sense of gloom envelops the Government too. Apart from the annual remittances of between Rs 800 crore and Rs 1,000 crore, the state has few sources of income. M.A. Oommen, an economist, points out that the drying up of remittances will have a cascading effect, affecting rural markets and a host of businesses like the transport sector, run mostly by the dependents of Gulf Malayalees. To compound matters, the Government's tax collections—excise duty of Rs 165 crore, sales tax of Rs 856 crore and registration fees for land transfers amounting to around Rs 110 crore—will plunge precipitously as spending collapses. Chief Minister E.K. Nayanar has asked the Centre to approve a grant of at least Rs 750 crore for a scheme to help rehabilitate Gulf returnees. The fear is that if the Gulf stand-off deteriorates into war, the fragile state economy would just fold up.

Nowhere is the apprehension more palpable than in the Gulf pockets of Varkala, Tiruvalla, Kumbanad, Kozhencherry, Chengannur and Chavakad. The magnitude of the money injections into these towns is best gauged from the flourishing business done by banks. Kerala has the highest bank-population ratio in the country: one branch for every 9,000 people. The taluk town of Kozhencherry has as many as 13 bank branches with over Rs 13 crore in deposits; not so surprising considering that almost every household has a member in the Gulf. Some small branches in Kerala boast of deposits of Rs 20 crore. That money, from Gulf remittances,

SHANKAR

"A depression will set in if the situation becomes any worse than it is."

E.K. NAYANAR, *Chief Minister*



With 30 lakh people registered in the state's employment

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

helped spur a consumerist boom and revolutionised life-styles. Now, the dreams have suddenly evanesced.

The sudden end of the Great Gulf Dream is already taking its toll. Overnight, work on the garish houses being built by Malayalees in the Gulf has come to a halt. Churches have become more crowded; as Mammon plays hookey, God is suddenly in demand. Food habits have become simpler. When people want to go to the nearby vegetable market, they walk instead of taking a taxi. And they no longer buy fish and vegetables at fancy prices; instead, they bargain.

The consequences of that swiftly-learnt thrift are evident everywhere. Prices have crashed. In Kumbanad village, fish vendor P.G. Rajappan says sales have fallen from Rs 4,000 to Rs 2,000—although prices too have fallen. Eapen Jacob, who owns a magazine stall, reports a steep fall in revenues. "No one seems to have the money," he says. Gold too has fallen on bad days. Abdul Jabbar, a gold merchant in Chavakad, says business has fallen by half.

Textile shop owners say they have never seen such dull sales. One who is particularly hard hit is Narayanan Nair, 61, owner of four textile shops. In just one shop in Tiruvalla, sales have fallen from Rs 15 lakh a month to around Rs 5 lakh. Says Nair: "People in the Gulf pockets were so rich they used to be ashamed to bargain. Now they make sure they are getting their money's worth."

Shops selling sanitary ware and bathroom fittings are another casualty. Babu Alex, who owned a sanitaryware shop in Earaviperoor village in Pathanamthitta district, used to have a monthly turnover of around Rs 6 lakh. Now, with construction work virtually at a standstill, sales have plummeted to half that figure. Says Alex: "People have realised they don't need five bathrooms."

THE consequences of the fall in sales could spread far beyond the borders of Kerala. For while the state accounted for 3.7 per cent of India's population, it was buying 10 per cent of its consumer goods. The total value of consumer goods and construction materials sold every year in Kerala was around Rs 7,000 crore, much of it coming from outside the state.

The Gulf craze was not restricted to consumer goods; it extended to services too. A prime example was medical services. As pockets bulged, it became fashionable to undergo elaborate and sophisticated medical examinations. So hospitals mushroomed. The little town of Kozhencherry has seven flourishing private hospitals. Says Dr Jolly Mathew, a chest specialist at the town's Muthoot Medical Centre: "There were times when a patient came in with an ordinary headache and insisted on having a computerised tomography scan done just because it cost Rs 1,500." The Gulf crisis has brought about a healthy cure in such attitudes.

If spending has fallen drastically, it is not due to a fall in remittances. Indeed, banks report that remittances have increased as Malayalees in the Gulf hastily send back money so as not to be caught in the same situation as their compatriots in Kuwait. But with fat earnings in future becoming improbable, existing savings must be made to go a longer way.

Few have salted away large nest-eggs. Most blew away their money on massive, ugly mansions; houses costing between Rs 10 lakh and Rs 20 lakh were commonplace. Gopinathan Nair, an economist, estimates that 48 per cent of Gulf remittances were used to construct houses. World Bank studies show that people in developed countries spend 60 per

Photographs by SHYAM TEKWANI

"The coming social crisis will be as real as the economic one."

C.T. TITUS, *Educationist*

xchanges, Malayalees returning from the Gulf face a bleak future

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

By helping give toiletries and detergents better properties, we've brought about a clean revolution for the masses

In the past decade the Indian consumer has been exposed to hundreds of brands of toiletries and detergents. What catalysed this clean revolution? Well, it was brought about by a host of speciality chemicals that enable manufacturers to pack more cleansing power into their products. The type of high-grade chemicals made by SM Dyechem. **Critical involvement, core contributions.** We're intimately involved with several core industries: offering new generation inputs, import-substitute chemicals... helping in their export drive. We've tied up with 4 of Europe's technology leaders. Acquired know-how that compresses gestation periods. Turned start-up projects into profit-centres in record time. In the process, we've doubled our profits each and every year. And become one of the most sought after scrips in the stock market. **A chain reaction of successes.** Achievement breeds its own ambition. From our pinnacle in the speciality chemicals market, we're taking off in diverse directions. Our vision of the near future encompasses projects to manufacture Methanol, Pig Iron, Carbon Black and a world-class Beer. **On the anvil is an agro-based Petrochemicals project. To each of these projects we'll bring our unique touch of Value Multiplication. Spread the benefits... and share the rewards.**

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

DISCOVER THE SHADES OF STEEL THE WAY THE WORLD HAS DONE

Presenting India's First Colour Coated Steel for wide ranging Applications

The ready to use steel

NIPPON DENRO ISPAT LTD.
Poonam Plaza, Palm Road,
Civil Lines, Nagpur - 440 001.
Tel : 525742, 525750, 520132.
Fax : 0712-533194 Tlx : 0715-426 NDIL IN.

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

restoration of Kuwait's legitimate government. Any modification of the above terms would practically amount to an Iraqi gain and a defeat for the US and its associates.

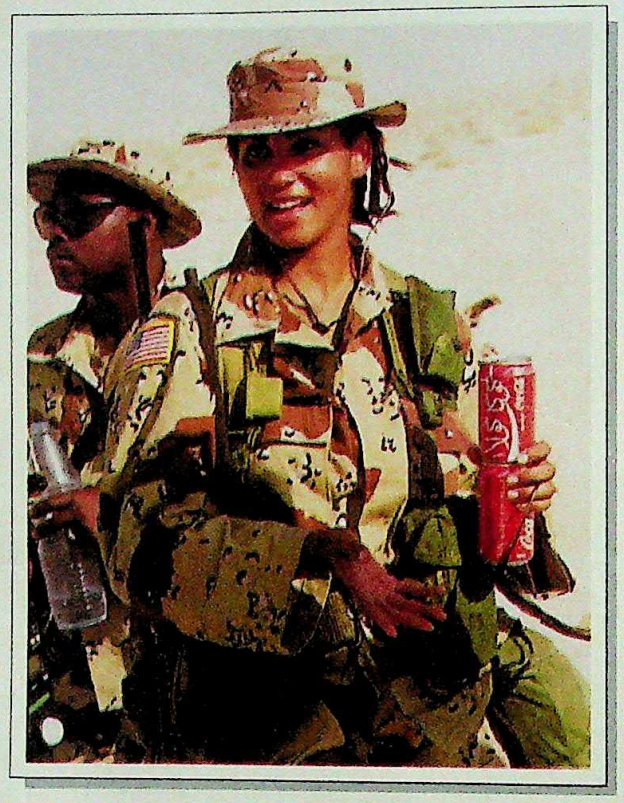
From an analytical point of view the UN terms already represent a compromise with what is really needed for the peace in the area and with what is compatible with the massive international deployment. Were Hussein to accept the UN terms, he would, in fact, preserve the essence of his power, although it would represent a huge loss of prestige for him. It might even bring home the need for moderation to the Iraqi leadership—especially if Hussein were replaced as a consequence.

But this could turn out to be wishful thinking. For the strategic relationship that encouraged Iraqi aggression in the first place would remain intact. Iraq would still retain its chemical and nuclear capabilities. Its large standing army would still preserve the capacity to overwhelm the area. Many nations in the Middle East might well adjust to the perception that the mobilisation of forces from all over the world cannot be repeated every few years.

Reducing Iraq's disproportionate military capacity is especially important if American forces are to be withdrawn rapidly from the Gulf, as I believe they should be. To think that the area can be protected by multilateral security treaties is a fantasy. The experience of the defunct Baghdad pact and of SEATO show the fragility of multilateral arrangements in regions where the nations involved have no coherent objectives or means of mutual support and frequently shift their allegiances.

I would feel more comfortable if the US sought to strengthen the UN resolutions to remove the underlying threat to the peace of the area by insisting on internationally monitored reductions of Iraq's military capabilities. But were Saddam to yield to sanctions without war, President Bush might well decide that he could not go beyond the existing UN resolutions without which the sanctions would never have been implemented in the first place. Such an outcome would be as understandable as it would be precarious. It must be entered into—if at all—with the knowledge that it would require a much higher degree of continued vigilance and a larger American presence in the area than is basically desirable. On the other hand, if a military clash occurs, the US should seek an outcome more consistent with long-term stability.

AFP



The US must decide how long it is prepared to wait for sanctions to work. If they were to be delayed into the new year the entire enterprise might begin to unravel.

THE Administration must therefore decided at some point for how long it is prepared to wait for sanctions to work and how far it is prepared to go without unanimous international support. Outsiders cannot establish arbitrary deadlines. I do not know whether the decision must be made in October or November. I would be very uneasy were it to be delayed into the new year, for I believe that the entire enterprise might then begin to unravel.

In the flush of rediscovered multilateralism, the US must not subordinate all long-range policy to the heady glow of internationalism or to the tactics of the moment. Even though I have consistently urged the inclusion of Syria in the peace process of the Middle East, I cannot repress my uneasiness at the eagerness with which the US welcomed the movement of a Syrian armoured division to Saudi Arabia. Do we know how to make it leave again? Are we in danger of repeating our mistake of the Iran-Iraq war, when we focused obsessively on the common foe of the moment? Would not the Syrian division be better employed on the Syrian border with Iraq? And having spent 40 years inducing the Soviet Army to return behind its own frontiers, is it really wise to tempt a Soviet military role in the Middle East? In view of two centuries of attempts by the Russians to penetrate the Middle East, is that not like handing a drink to a reformed alcoholic?

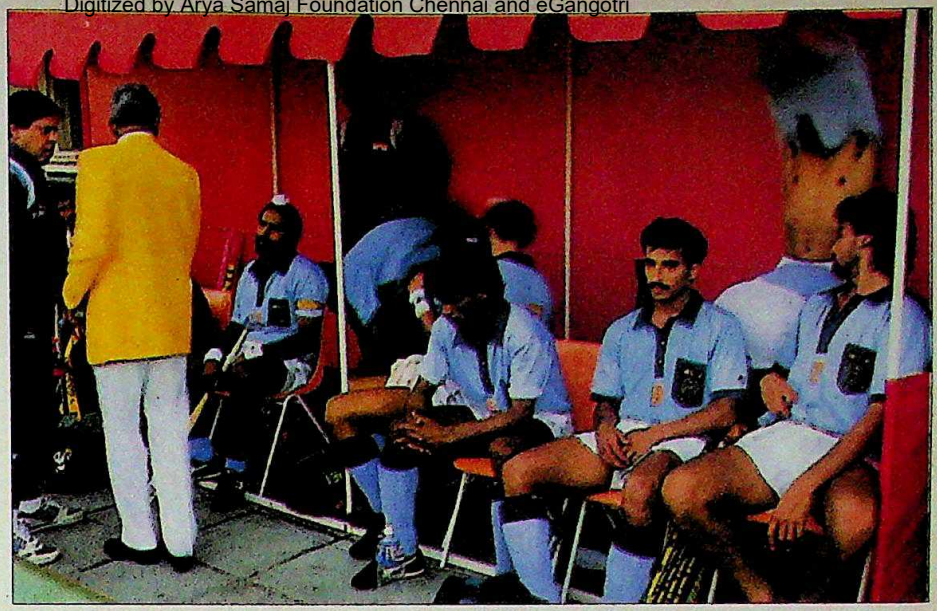
In the process of overcoming the current crisis, the US must not emerge as the permanent defender of every status quo. But the path to peace and progress resides in success in the Gulf. Afterwards the US, together with its Arab partners, can demonstrate the benefits of cooperative action in promoting the well being of the Arab peoples. It should then seek energetically to make progress toward a settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict, especially now that looming disaster might have brought all sides second thoughts about both the nature of a peace and suitable participants in peace negotiations. Sometimes platitudes turn out to be true. This is the test of the post-Cold War era. It remains for the Administration to reap the benefits of its courageous efforts.

© *Los Angeles Times.*
Exclusive to INDIA TODAY

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

accreditation for him as the table tennis event was already over. Not one to give up he got a hockey accreditation. Others who came spent most of their time cadging free meals, collecting freebies or bitching about one another. Suresh Kalmadi came with an entourage that necessitated hiring 25 rooms in the expensive Jade Palace hotel and even held a bash where he got away with introducing Shukla, who was trying hard to be called just once, the president of IOA, as an "honourable member of Parliament." Chief Secretary of Uttar Pradesh R.K. Bhargava came to discuss joint ventures but spent much of his time watching sport. Two IAS men from Maharashtra were more straightforward: they came to study kabaddi! Even the usually reticent Chinese were quick to acknowledge Indian supremacy. "Your people may not have got too many medals. But they grabbed the most accreditation cards," was the most generous compliment Indians received.



A young hockey team fought gamely but realised that class couldn't be overcome by luck or defiance.

SPIRITED BUT FUTILE

DROWNING in shame we prayed for a miracle on the field. A hockey gold is like a dip in the Ganga for Indian sport. But given the class of the Pakistanis, we needed more than luck. Particularly with captain and full-back, Pargat Singh playing with a fractured rib. The Pakistanis moved like a charging cavalry and if anything stood between India and a six-goal rout, it was the display of an unprecedented fighting spirit.

The Pakistanis began with the shout of Allah-o-Akbar and played to the cries of Ya Ali. Yet the two Indians who defied them the most were half-backs Shakeel Ahmed Khan and Mohammed Arif. The game only changed Pakistan's way when Shakeel was given marching orders for 10 minutes in the second half. Others fought gamely too: Jagbir Singh, India's only real forward and Darryl D'Souza, the nippy right-winger brought in towards the end. The counter-attack came too late.

The medal presentation had the Pakistani ambassador leading the singing of the national anthem. Many Indians cried. Shakeel, unabashedly. He kept muttering "if only that... referee hadn't thrown me out." Darryl hid his tear-stained cheeks with a bouquet of flowers. A touching moment indicative of a pleasant fact. Here was a team with fight and should form a good core to rebuild Indian hockey.

Women's hockey was a different story. The team had yet to recover from having one 'woman' sent back for failing the femininity test when the Korean and Chinese onslaughts began. Each Korean girl was twice as tough as her rival and even Inamur Rahman, Indian men's coach, wondered what would happen if his boys had to play against them.

Despite bare feet and a muffed water jump, Dina Ram brought India a moment of cheer.

BAREFOOT FIGHTER

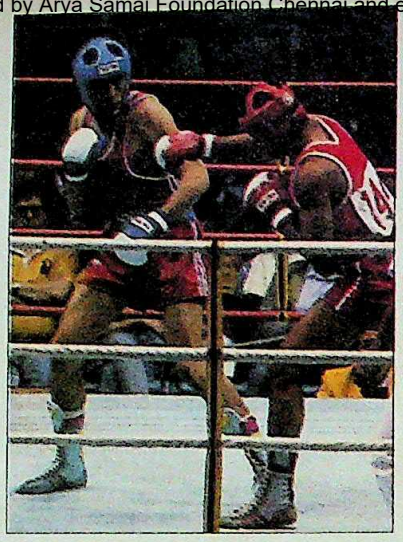
ONE man who did not sham and even defied the general trend of athletes performing way below their bests was steeplechaser Dina Ram, a worthy claimant to the mantle of old warhorse Gopal Saini. Running barefoot he clipped nine seconds from his previous best to end with silver in a

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

stirring photofinish. Both he and the Chinese, who had been yards ahead of him till the last straight, returned the same timing but at that vital moment Dina dipped his shoulder just that bit more for the electronic cameras. Veterans quickly noted that it was perhaps the first time ever that an Indian won a photofinish as, lacking in killer instinct, Indians always tend to flag when faced with a do-or-die situation. If only he hadn't muffed his last water jump he would have taken a shot at the gold, just .55 seconds ahead of him.

But even in his moment of glory Dina displayed a nagging symptom of the disease of Indian sport. "I would have tried for the gold but I was told in the morning that the Japanese has a timing of 3:32 so there is no point chasing him," he said describing his mental preparation phase on the vital day. This when coaches all over the world are talking of esoterica like psychocybernetics to literally hypnotise mediocre athletes into believing they can win. Dina also nursed on his right foot a nick from a nail that came loose from a fellow runner's spikes. Why does he run barefooted? Because nobody would buy him steeplechasing shoes. Each time he asks for them he is given ordinary spikes. Steeplechasing shoes have holes so that the water seeps out quickly after the water jump. With a silver under his belt, shoes should be no problem now.



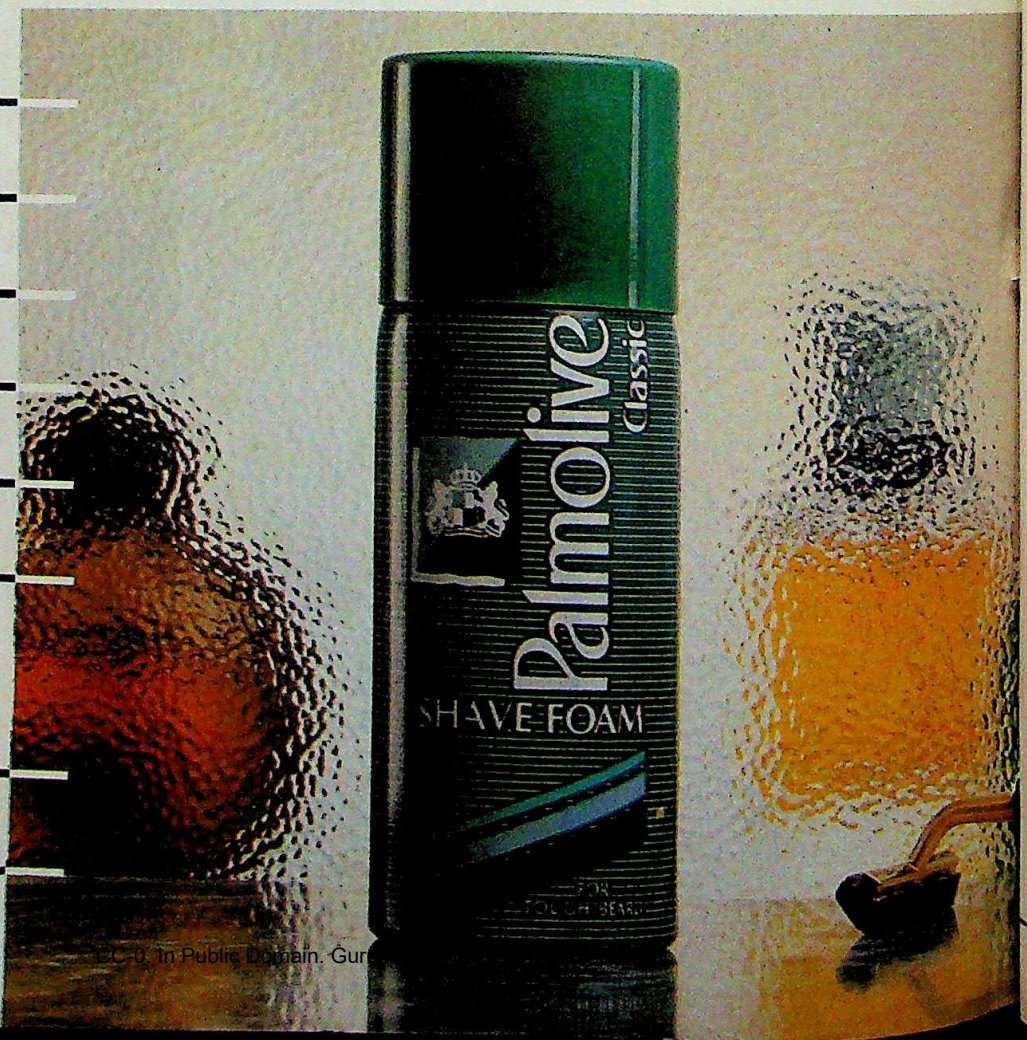
Dewang was knocked out by blatantly partisan referees.

BRONZE AMBITIONS

BUT who was thinking of golds? A medal here or there was all that the Indian camp was trying for to save face. The men's hockey matches became the meeting grounds for Indian press, officials and sportspersons and hangers on. Tarlochan Singh, PRO of the Indian contingent was always at hand. "We will get a bronze. One boxer is in the semi-finals," he announced. "But Tarlochan, why not a victory into the final and then a gold or silver?" The answer came from someone in the officials' row: "*Oye chhaddo ji. Gold tan Pakistan noon milna haiga.*" (Forget it. The gold will go to the Pakistanis). Outside the hockey field, a boxing official was explaining to a fellow official how long he would be at the boxing venue that evening. "If Dewang lasts the full bout, it will be 10 minutes. If it is a knockout, much less."

That Dewang hammered the Chinese and yet lost the bout in what is now regarded as the most blatantly fixed boxing bout in Asiad history is besides the point. After the partisan decision against him the Mongolians, who too were incensed about some decisions approached Indians for a joint boycott of the tournament. Nepal had already withdrawn two boxers in protest and the favourites, North Koreans, had been thrown

IN THE STILLNESS OF THE MORNING EVERYTHING WAITS



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gur

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

supplies of cotton, an Englishman named Staines set up a textile mill in Coimbatore in 1888—the Coimbatore Spinning and Weaving Mills. Twenty years went by before the next mill was set up, this time in 1907 by a Chettiar. In 1910, a ginning factory—the Lakshmi Mill—was set up. When in 1933, the Pykara power station was established, the foundations of the texile industry were permanently laid. In the '60s, the textile industry began to boom and today, there are nearly 300 mills in and around the town, well over half the total number in the state. The town also accounts for 20 per cent of the handloom cloth produced in Tamil Nadu.

When her husband died, Jayalaxmi, a housewife, was forced to take over his engineering products factory. Since then, she has boosted turnover from a paltry Rs 7 lakh to nearly Rs 1 crore.

THE growth in textiles led to another boom, in industries producing goods required by the industry: textile machinery and electric motors. That led to the idea of making motor-pumpsets for agriculture. Today, there are more than 200 units manufacturing pumps, and the motor-pump industry has an annual turnover of nearly Rs 600 crore. Motors and pumps meant foundries, which in turn meant a diversification into automobile ancillaries. The result is that today, there are more than 3,000 small-scale industries in and around Coimbatore.

During the '80s, however, the town got a rude jolt. The slump in textiles drastically affected the ancillaries, and brought home all too clearly to Coimbatore the dangers of putting all its industrial eggs into one basket. Today, the textile industry is booming once again but the slump has had salutary effects. Many industrialists have thought it wise to invest in non-traditional growth areas—electronics, plastics and household appliances.

Simultaneously, they're also beginning to eye foreign markets. Cotton yarn had always been exported. Now other areas are being explored. The Rs 300-crore Lakshmi group exports textile machinery to Europe. Universal Radiators exports a small portion of its output to the ASEAN countries. And Meenu Mix exports mixers to Malaysia, Singapore and Dubai. The motor-pump industry too, faced with a crowded domestic market, is casting its net overseas. As yet exports—mainly to Africa and the Middle East—amount to just about 8 per cent of production, but they're expected to pick up in a couple of years.

Known as the appliance whiz, Meenu Mix, which is run by second generation entrepreneurs, has successfully managed to sell its mixers in the highly competitive Gulf and south-east Asian markets.

Coimbatore's businessmen have also invested in what is, for Indian industrialists, a relatively unusual area: education. The two leaders have been the Gee Dee and the PSG groups. "This trend of evolving a pattern of education to help local industry is peculiar to Coimbatore," says K.G. Balakrishnan, president, Indian Chamber of Commerce, Coimbatore. Thanks to that, Coimbatore today boasts 10 engineering colleges turning out 6,000 engineers every year, and 22 polytechnics.

Yet, despite his innovation and enterprise, the Coimbatore industrialist remains deeply conservative. Most of the town's industrial houses—Lakshmi, Gee Dee, Universal Radiators, Meenu Mix—are family-owned; public holdings are considered too risky. Then, in most cases, the top man personally oversees every detail. The managing director of one of Coimbatore's biggest textile companies signs vouchers for as little as Rs 45. "It does mean extra

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

SAFE MANAGEMENT OF RADIOACTIVE WASTES FROM NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS.

A unique feature of nuclear power plants is the extremely low quantity of radioactive wastes generated — about 0.7% to 2% of spent fuel discharged, depending on the type of reactor and the U235 content in the fresh fuel.

The spent fuel containing most (99%) of the high level radioactivity due to fission products, produces heat, and is stored under water in on-site storage bays, sized to take lifetime discharge. The water, besides cooling, also provides biological shielding from radioactivity to plant personnel.

Newly produced plutonium (Pu) forms about 0.6% and unused uranium (U-238) forms upto 98% of the spent fuel which is eventually taken to reprocessing plants, to recover valuable Pu & Ur, for re-cycling in breeder reactors and to separate the unwanted fission products for disposal. Though it's true, that plutonium 239 has a half-life (period in which radioactivity reduces to half) of 24000 years, it poses no problem, as it is used in breeder reactors to produce electricity and fission products of lesser half-lives. Incidentally, natural uranium (U238) has a half-life of 4.5 billion years. And, precisely because of exceedingly long half-lives, such sources are least radioactive.

The balance 1% radioactivity, resulting from maintenance work on reactor systems, is low level wastes (LLW) in the form of gloves, rags, tools and medium level wastes (MLW) such as spent resins, metal fragments, chemical sludge. These are disposed of at site.

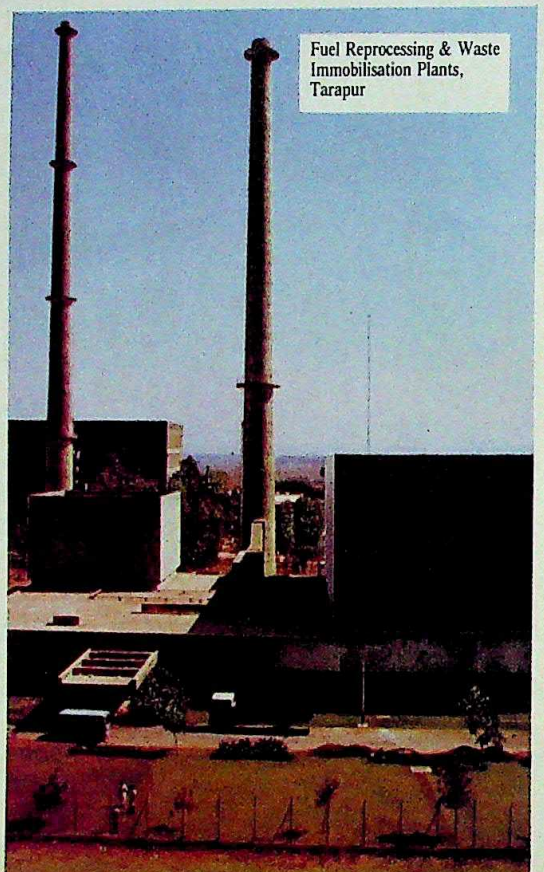
Strategy for waste management.

The main objective is to prevent unacceptable detriment to man or environment, now and in future, and also to minimize the burden on future generations. Hence, the overriding criterion is the radiological and environmental protection achieved, in isolating the wastes from the biosphere during permanent storage.

The CC-Strategy (concentration and containment) is used for managing MLW and HLW (high level wastes) and the DD-Strategy (dilution and dispersion) for LLW. The world over, waste management facilities for segregating, transporting, storing, treating and disposing LLW and MLW are provided at the plant site. But, for HLW, it is taken away from the plant site to reprocessing plants for separating fission products, immobilising them in vitrified blocks, and air cooling the blocks for about 30 years, before finally disposing them in stable geological repositories, several hundred metres deep into the ground.

India's achievement in reprocessing and managing radioactive wastes.

Spent fuel reprocessing is essential for India, which has limited uranium resources, so as to extend their utilisation and to reduce the HLW quantities for disposal. The first reprocessing facility at Trombay was commissioned 25 years ago, in January 1965, as an entirely self-reliant and indigenous effort. The second plant for power reactor fuel reprocessing (PREFRE-1) was built and commissioned at Tarapur in April 1977, establishing long distance inland transportation of spent fuel in shielded flasks, from RAPS (Rajasthan) and MAPS (Tamil Nadu). The Kalpakkam reprocessing plant (KARP) for reprocessing FBR and MAPS fuel is the third unit nearing completion.



Fuel Reprocessing & Waste Immobilisation Plants, Tarapur

HIGHLIGHTS OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT IN INDIA

Year		1985	2000	Disposal
Installed Power capacity	MWe	1310	10,000	
Primary Solid Very low Level Wastes (VLLW)	M^3	1850	107,000	Earth trenches at plant site SLR
Low Level Waste Concentrates (LLW)	M^3	3000	77,000	Concrete trenches at plant site SLR
Intermediate Level Wastes (ILW)	M^3	800	20,000	Steel-lined concrete tile holes at plant site SLR
High Level Liquid Wastes (HLW)				
Non-Solidified	M^3	440	8,000	In SS tanks at WIP
Solidified (Vitrification)	M^3	—	400	Interim storage in S^3F near WIP

For ***handling radioactive wastes*** at each of the nuclear power stations, the gaseous wastes are passed through very fine filters and discharged into the atmosphere. Low level liquid wastes are filtered, diluted, monitored and dispersed in to rivers, reservoirs or the sea. MLW liquids are concentrated and fixed in cement. Solid wastes are disposed of in shallow land repositories (SLR). Bore holes are provided around the SLR to monitor ground water for any evidence of leaching.

The Waste Immobilisation Plant (WIP) commissioned in March 1985 at Tarapur, bituminises and vitrifies high level liquid wastes. The glass blocks are cast into stainless steel containers, two of which are placed within a metal overpack and kept in the interim air cooled Solid Storage & Surveillance Facility (S^3F). The S^3F can store upto 2000 overpacks with air cooling, for about 30 years. After which, they will be emplaced in stable geological repositories. Investigations are in progress for candidate repository sites. The safety requirements for the reprocessing and waste management plants (where most of the work is done remotely in shielded chambers), are stipulated and checked by the Regulatory Body to safeguard plant personnel, public and environment.

NPC. Committed to meeting the nation's energy needs.

To achieve a better standard of living today and to conserve our dwindling energy reserves for future generations, we would need an optimal mix of thermal, hydel and nuclear sources for fuelling India's growth needs. That's why NPC has just one major overriding goal. To harness the power of the atom. To help India achieve self-sufficiency in power generation for generations to come.

NPC. Fuelling a powerful future.

Want to know more about nuclear power? Send your queries to:

NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)
Centre No.1, 16th & 20th Floor,
World Trade Centre, Cuffe Parade,
Bombay - 400 005

Issued for public information by the Directorate of Environment and Public Awareness – Nuclear Power Corporation.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

CONTOUR-NPC-170C/90

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

work," he says, "but it keeps you in touch with your company."

The result is a man who knows his business. Says Herman Weiler, German collaborator of the Gee Dee group, who has been visiting Coimbatore for 25 years: "The guy making compressors in Faridabad sits in his office in Delhi and visits his factory twice a year. The guy in Coimbatore knows what is happening on his shop floor."

UNLIKE his northern counterpart, the Coimbatore industrialist abhors publicity. His Rolls Royces, Ming vases, Husains and landscaped gardens are not garish displays of wealth; they are for his eyes only. Whether holidaying (abroad), or entertaining (quietly, at an exclusive club), it is all done unobtrusively.

But as everywhere, change is making itself felt in Coimbatore too. The second-generation entrepreneur, far better educated than his forebears, has been quick to modernise and introduce new technology. Management methods too are changing. So, while companies are still family-run, most are professionally managed. There are fewer relations of the controlling family on the board of directors. And while, in the '70s, it was common for half the employees of a company to belong to the community that owned the company, today there are hardly a handful.

Still, when changes are introduced, it is done slowly and with caution. As Mahesh, who heads Universal Radiators, says: "People are careful here." That, he goes on to add, is why in Coimbatore bubbles never burst. Few would disagree with that.

Manoharan and Arumugam have left their secure teaching jobs at the PSG College of Technology to successfully manufacture battery chargers and power plants for telephone exchanges.

TIRRUPPUR

Export Boom

SIXTY kilometres south of Coimbatore lies the town of Tirruppur. Once known as the *chaddi-banian* capital of Tamil Nadu, because of the immense quantities of hosiery it produced, Tirruppur is today one of the brightest stars in the country's export firmament. Last year, it exported Rs 400-crore worth of ready-made garments, mostly T-shirts. "And in another four years, we expect to touch Rs 1,000 crore," says Sakthivel, president of the Exporters' Association of Tirruppur.

What makes that achievement even more impressive is the fact that Tirruppur switched from hosiery to T-shirts as late as 1988. It has however, been helped by the fact that political turbulence has almost killed exports of T-shirts from China.

Many of Tirruppur's 3,000-odd small-scale manufacturers aren't themselves exporters; they supply T-shirts to larger firms. Among the popular brands being produced in this way are Smash, Proline and VIP. The domestic market too is booming but most manufacturers prefer to export—the returns are higher, and payments faster.

Tirruppur has prospered as a result. With most families having several earning members, including children, the purchasing power is high. Not surprisingly, Tirruppur is one of the costliest cities in the south, more so than Coimbatore and Madras. Over the past eight months alone, land prices have risen fivefold: from Rs 1.5 lakh an acre to nearly Rs 7 lakh. This, in spite of the fact that the town has poor infrastructural facilities. Serpentine queues for water are common. And about sewerage facilities, the less said the better.

A garments manufacturing unit

Now, the state Government is drawing up a Rs 100-crore scheme to improve water, power and drainage facilities among other things.

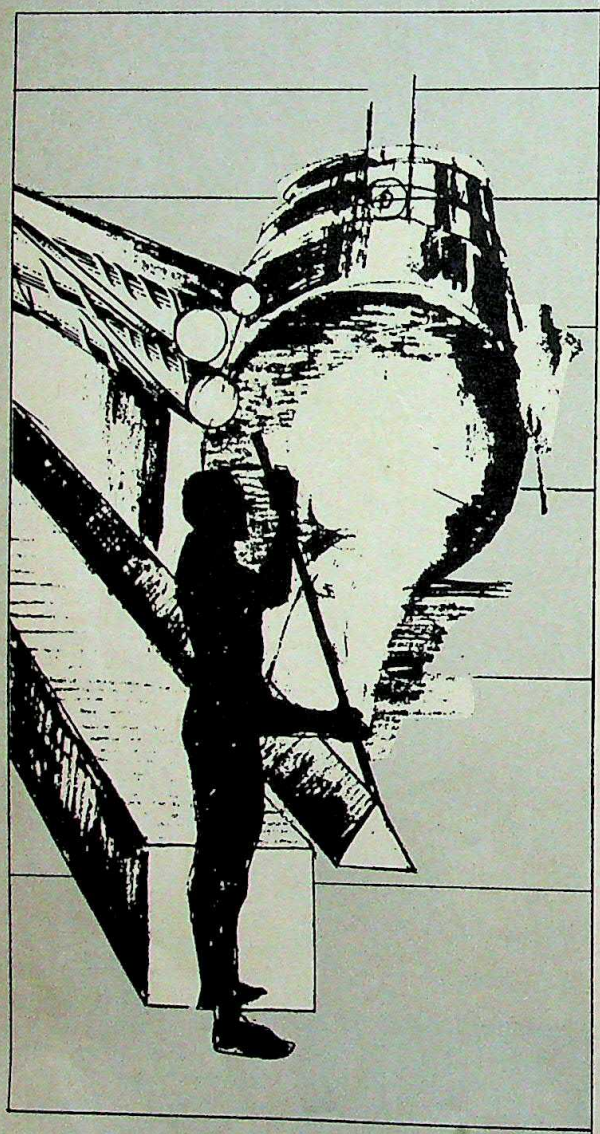
The lack of these hasn't prevented Tirruppur from thriving or drawing more settlers. The mood remains upbeat. Says Abdus Salaam, an exporter: "In 10 years, we should beat Coimbatore."

—KAVITHA SHETTY

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

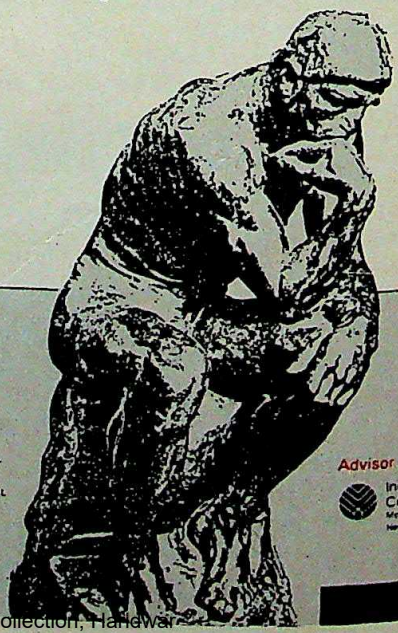
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

There's one thing that's greater than
The demand for faster, cheaper way



ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

* Promoter with 5 decades experience in steel. Leading manufacturer of **KL TOR.** Pioneers in high quality low Nickel stainless steel, saving the country precious foreign exchange.
* Now setting up Hot Strip Mill of 100,000 TPA :
  - Installation progressing fast. Commissioning expected June 1991.
  - Low capital cost Rs. 46 crores.
  - Modern, highly automatic digital controls, comprising of Steckel Mill and Continuous Tandem Mill — **a unique combination** for **finishing thinner gauges.**
  - Will produce stainless steel, LPG, Electrical, DD and EDD Grades of steel sheets in coil — all import substitutes.
* Captive Power Plant for Arc Furnace operation.
* Collaboration with **Leybold AG, West Germany** for OTB Converter technology and technical know-how/expertise from **Badische Stahl Engg. GmbH, West Germany.**
* Market price of share Rs. 180 (cum Bonus cum Rights at Delhi Stock Exchange on **September 14, 1990**).
* Grand opportunity to acquire equity share at Rs. 50/- only.
* UTI, LIC, GIC, Financial Institutions and Mutual Funds subscribing Rs. 540.18 lacs.
* Listing at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, and Madras Stock Exchanges.



Lead Managers to the Issue

SBI Capital Markets Limited — SBI CAPITAL MARKETS LTD. 202 Maker Tower 'F' 20th Floor, Cuffe Parade Bombay 400 005

ANZ Grindlays Bank plc — Merchant Banking Division, H Block, Connaught Circus, New Delhi 110 001

Co-Managers to the Issue

CANBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LTD. — 11 Vinchanur Building, Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi 110 001

BOI FINANCE LTD. — 24th Floor, Stock Exchange Bldg, Dalal Street, Bombay 400 023

HongkongBank — Merchant Banking Division, N Block, Connaught Circus, New Delhi 110 001

CHAMPAKLAL INVESTMENT & FINANCIAL CONSULTANCY LIMITED — 3rd Floor, 36 Connaught House, Connaught Place, New Delhi 110 001

Advisor to the Issue

Industrial Finance Corporation of India — Merchant Banking Division, New Delhi 110001

Sobhagya/219/90

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

han the demand for steel.
ways to manufacture it

What the world's tenth most industrialised nation needs is 'thinking companies'

RATHI ALLOYS. The 'thinking' steel maker. Ever since its birth in 1970, Rathi Alloys has been more than just a manufacturer. Through its R&D efforts, the Company has pioneered numerous innovations.

Like introducing a process which involved the reduction of the nickel content in Stainless Steel, a process in use in developed countries like the United States.

And today like the country, **Rathi Alloys** is moving towards bigger things...

RATHI ALLOYS

Striving To Excel

RATHI ALLOYS & STEEL LTD

REGD. OFFICE : 3-A, VANDHNA, 11, TOLSTOY MARG, NEW DELHI-110 001.

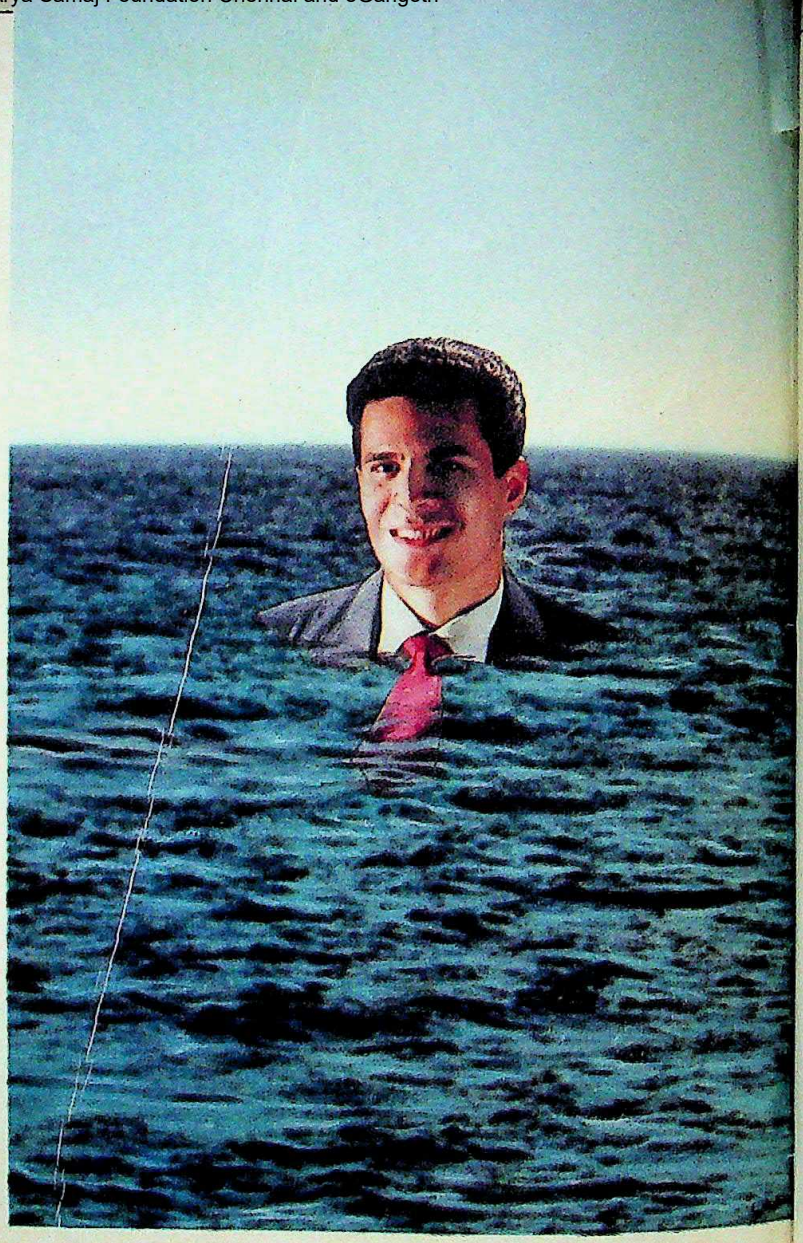
Issue of 14.50 lacs 12.50% Secured Fully Convertible Debentures of Rs. 100/- each for cash at par aggregating to Rs. 14.50 Crores.

Issue Opens on 6th November, 1990

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

THE 'MAKE OR BREAK' TEST FOR A PRODUCT IS NOT ON THE TEST-BED, BUT IN THE UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES OF REAL LIFE.



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

When it comes to engineering firsts in industrial electrics and electronics in India, it is Kirloskar Electric which wrote the book almost single-handedly. We've stuck our necks out, burnt our fingers and done things that other companies considered impossible. But there's one particular first that taught us more than any book could: the 3.2 MVA, 11000/605 volts, class 'C' insulated dry type transformer.

In 1983 the Metro Railways in Calcutta, India's one and only underground rail transport system, asked us to design and manufacture a dry type transformer with the highest rating of its kind in the country.

Their brief was succinct: transformers play a critical role in the Metro system. Without them all loco-movement would come to a standstill. The closer a transformer is to a sub-station, the greater the energy savings. So they wanted our transformer located underground. It had to withstand highly fluctuating loads, have the most advanced standard of efficiency, be totally non-inflammable and require minimum maintenance.

Above all, they wanted it to be utterly reliable.

We are past masters at making transformers and delivered the Calcutta Metro order in 1984.

It was at this time that there was a deluge in Calcutta. Our transformer was totally submerged in water for 22 days. When the waters receded, the transformer was encrusted solid with silt and cement.

We brought the transformer back to our factory, cleaned the core coil assembly with water jets and dried it. The cement deposits however had hardened to the point where they could not be removed. Now for the moment of truth. No test in the world demanded that a transformer work after 22 days under water. Would our transformer take such an extraordinary beating and yet continue to function normally?

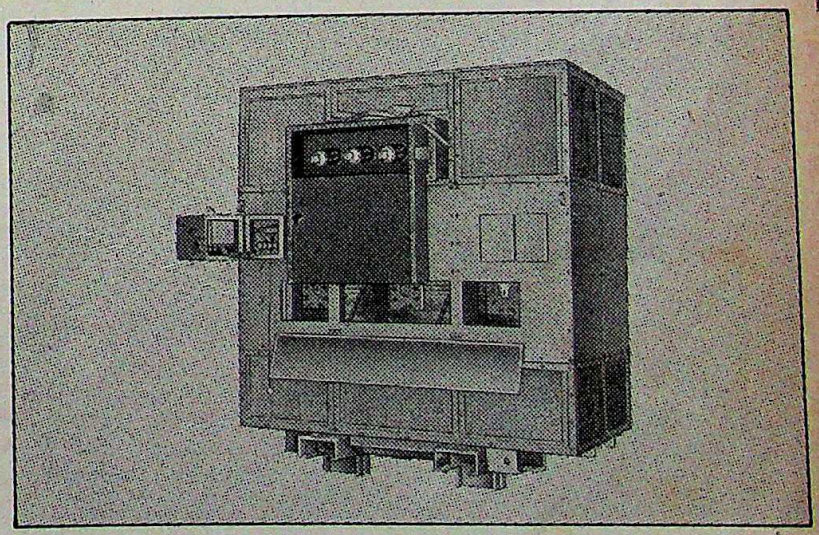
It did. It came through the ordeal by water by withstanding all high voltage tests successfully. We had not just made a conventional dry type transformer with the highest rating in the country but also with the greatest reliability. However, since the cement deposits on the windings would affect the cooling of coils, we replaced the old transformer with a new one.

But Kirloskar Electric is more than the sum of all the firsts it has earned over the years. We are India's leading industrial electrics and electronics company in the private sector. We make some of the finest standard AC and DC drives, transformers, welding equipment and systems, motorised gear units, equipment for defence, electronic control equipment, CNCs, etc. But the one single reason why we are the prime movers in our field is because the centre of gravity at Kirloskar Electric is the customer. Our hi-tech, engineering expertise, superior quality and reliability are all geared to anticipate and respond to his needs.

KIRLOSKAR ELECTRIC CO. LTD.

INDUSTRIAL ELECTRICS AND ELECTRONICS

Regd. Office : Industrial Suburb, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560 010.



When nobody else can do the job, Kirloskar Electric will.

Pratibha/KEC/265/89-9

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

PLUMMETING POPULARITY

INDIA'S image in the world has plummeted to new depths. First, Prime Minister V.P. Singh declined an invitation to speak at a two-day summit to discuss children's issues at the United Nations headquarters at New York in late-September. He was slated to be the second speaker after US President George Bush at the summit which was attended by some 70 heads of countries. What is worse for the country's attempts to attract foreign investment is Industry Minister Ajit Singh's last-minute decision not to attend the annual conference on India organised by the World Economic Forum at Geneva on October 7-8. The forum had to cancel invitations sent to 50 business tycoons from Europe, the US and Japan which has miffed them no end. The reason why Ajit Singh decided not to go to Geneva—after having agreed to do so three months ago—seems rather weak: the Government is yet to finalise the positive list of industries specifying the areas where foreign investors would be welcome.

BLEAK PROSPECTS

THE boiler manufacturing company ACC Babcock Ltd, now under the administrative supervision of the Department of Power, has managed to keep its head above water after being closed from October 1986 to June 1988. But just about. If new orders aren't forthcoming soon, the company may end up in the corporate graveyard. With units in Durgapur, West Bengal and Shahabad, Karnataka, ACC Babcock had an accumulated loss of Rs 80 crore till March this year. This would have been higher if some government departments and various banks and financial institutions hadn't advanced it about Rs 39 crore.

As per the rehabilitation package worked out, the company was to receive orders for six boilers between 1988-89 and 1990-91. So far five have come through. Now time is running out. Even if the company is merged with Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd, as once proposed, its chances are bleak. Reason: BHEL's own order book position is dismal.

NEW CONNECTIONS

AFTER months of dithering, the Government seems to have finally decided to set up a holding company to extend telecommunication services to all the metropolitan centres. Right now Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd (MTNL) provides these services to Bombay and Delhi; Calcutta, Madras and Bangalore have separate telecom 'circles'. While these telecom circles will be brought under the new holding company, MTNL will only be a part of it, thus ending speculation that the nigam's expansion ambitions were to be realised. At least that is what the Chairman of the Telecom Commission, Sam Pitroda, has written to the unions of telecom employees. The holding company proposal is expected to be placed before the Cabinet in November.

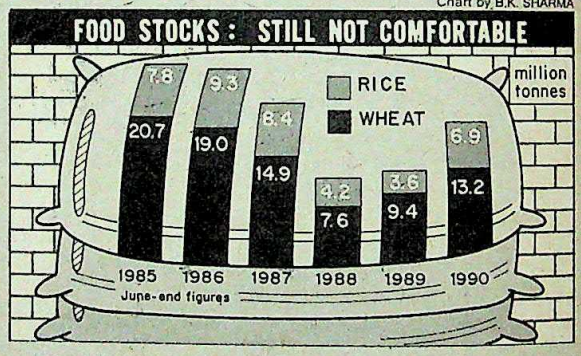
POISED FOR A LEAP

THE over Rs 120-crore television giant Weston Electronics is getting into the takeover game. After diversifying into audio equipment, washing machines and compact disc players, the company is now negotiating with the London-based Lalvani brothers to buy the Indian operation of their Binatone group (world-wide turnover: over Rs 200 crore) to make TV sets and audio systems. Binatone seems to have lost out in competition.

RISING STOCK

DURING the first two years of the Rajiv Gandhi regime, the country faced a problem of plenty. Food stocks were close to 29 million tonnes in June 1985 and June 1986—the highest ever—and the Food Corporation of India was having a tough time finding storage space for surplus grain. Then came the 1987 drought. And by the

Chart by B.K. SHARMA



middle of next year, stocks had plummeted to below 12 million tonnes. The stock level hovered around this figure for more than a year plunging to below 10 million tonnes last September. Now thanks to the third successive favourable monsoon, food stocks are again on the rise. But there's not much room for complacency: they are still below the 'safe' level of 22 million tonnes.

HOT COMPETITION

COMPETITION in the Rs 160-crore ice-cream industry shows no signs of cooling off. Old and not-so-old players—including Kwality, Joy, Vadilal, Go-Kool, Milkfood, Cadbury's and Indian Hotels of the Tata group—are likely to face greater pressure on their profit margins as new ice-cream producers plan to enter the fray. These include the Anand-based cooperative giant National Dairy Development Board, the Bangalore-based packet-tea multinational Brooke Bond and biscuit bigwig Britannia Industries among others. Most of these large companies will not be manufacturing ice-cream themselves but will market the products of small units. Despite competition intensifying, there should be room for all: according to industry estimates, the country's ice-cream market is growing every year at a rate of 15 per cent in terms of volume and at 25 per cent in terms of value.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

The formal shirts for men who hate formal shirts.

Get away from the stiff, starched look, yet maintain the right degree of sophistication and elegance, with Fortune Shirts.

They offer a flawless finish, perfect fit, the choicest fabrics, over 500 designs and undoubtedly the best quality at an affordable price.

They're perfect for people who find spending too much on a good quality shirt an unnecessary waste of money.

Rs. 110/- Upwards

FORTUNE

The best quality of shirts for the best quality of man.

Sales Office: ***Eastern Apparels***, 107-108, Rajouri Palace, J-1/162, Rajouri Garden, New Delhi-110 027. Phone: 530355.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ITC launches into Relational DBMS. To help your software future take off into open environments.

UNIFY and ACCELL are registered trademarks of UNIFY Corpn.
MS Windows and Motif are registered trademarks of Microsoft Corpn.
UNIX and Open Look are registered trademarks of AT & T Bell Laboratories.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

HTA 4145

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Announcing ITC's tie-up with UNIFY Corpn., USA. Bringing you UNIFY 2000 RDBMS and ACCELL SQL 4GL to give you environment independence.

ITC, one of the top ten business houses in India with a history of success in diverse businesses, now launches into Relational DBMS and Fourth Generation software tools. Stepping into another territory of endeavour. With a team of skilled professionals dedicated to information technology in India and abroad for two decades, ITC now brings you UNIFY 2000 RDBMS and ACCELL SQL software development tools from UNIFY Corpn., USA, one of the leading UNIX software companies in the world. Introducing the "open environment" approach to computing. With a Relational DBMS, application generator and 4GL available across more than 150 UNIX platforms. Easy-to-use, power-packed UNIFY products now come with total support from the top computer professionals in the country.

One leader supports another

Starting in 1982, with more than 100,000 licences sold till date, UNIFY Corpn., is among the leading worldwide suppliers of application software development tools and relational database management systems in the UNIX environment.

In India, UNIX is today the fastest growing operating system. And UNIFY RDBMS is already the number one RDBMS in India with over 1000 installations.

The Information Systems Division of ITC has international experience in tailoring information technology to customer needs. Now its exclusive tie-up with UNIFY Corpn., USA, assures UNIFY users in India of expert back-up services and of up-to-date software from the world leaders.

"Open environment" approach to computing

UNIX has paved the way for the "open environment" approach and the challenge has been to create high value software applications which combine flexibility and power, along with an extremely flexible end user interface.

The ACCELL SQL development system is designed to meet this need: an "Open Toolset" for UNIX that works with UNIFY 2000 database, and on other databases as well. For the end user, its choice range of presentation interfaces make application software really come alive, without any additional programming.

ACCELL/CP furthers the power of this "Open Toolset" by harnessing the combined abilities of DOS and UNIX through "co-operative processing", with the added advantage of using a number of Graphical User Interfaces like MS Windows, Open Look and Motif.

And with ACCELL/IQ—the intelligent query tool, discover the value of your data by creating your own reports and graphs. An ideal "do it yourself" end user tool.

Make your software future take off

ITC brings UNIFY users in India an opportunity to take off into the new world of "open environment" computing through UNIFY products and services. Keeping you ahead with state-of-the-art software. Keeping your investment secure. Ramping up your existing multi-domain computing environment to produce increasingly superior value. Improving your "value for money" equation constantly.

Take off into "open environment" computing.

Mail this coupon today to:

A K Basu
V P Software Products
Information Systems Division
ITC Limited
Pulikeshi Nagar, Bangalore 560 005
Phone : 561172/576661, Fax: 560954
Grams: POWHATTAN, Telex : 084 5295

Yes, I would like to find out more about UNIFY RDBMS and ACCELL SQL 4GL.

☐ Please send me detailed product literature.

☐ Have your representative call on me.

Name: .....

Designation: .....

Organisation: .....

Mailing Address: .....

Tel No. : ..... Fax No. : .....

Tlx No. : .....

ITA

ITC UNIFY

When one leader supports another, confidence is redefined.

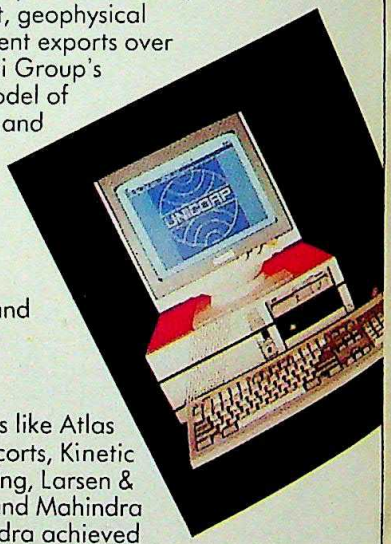
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

LEADING THE WAY TO SUCCESS STEP BY STEP

Perfecting the rare art of selecting opportunities and staying ahead

From a small departmental store to hi-tech areas as manufacturers of computer hardware, software development, geophysical instruments and garment exports over 3 decades. The Sogani Group's journey has been a model of corporate enterprise and is moving ahead while staying true to its unflinching commitment to quality, reliability and integrity.



Companies like Atlas Copco, Escorts, Kinetic Engineering, Larsen & Toubro and Mahindra & Mahindra achieved significant market shares for their products by utilising the marketing network of the Group.

Then, in the 80s, UNICORP INDUSTRIES LIMITED (earlier known as UNICORP COMPUTERS (P) LIMITED.) established the hi-tech image of the Group. In 1988-89, Unicorp was the 5th largest exporter in the Indian Computer industry. In 1989-90, it became the 2nd largest exporter of computer hardware.* Data Quest has ranked UNICORP among the top 10 micro producers in the country.

Three generations of the SOGANI GROUP. Leadership that has now been harnessed into UNICORP INDUSTRIES LIMITED

UNICORP INDUSTRIES LTD.
A Sogani Group Enterprise
C-176, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase-I, New Delhi 110 020.
Tel : 6845829, 6840682, 6831341, 6840985
Fax : 011-6845828

WE STAY AHEAD, SO YOU STAY AHEAD.

* Based on an independent survey by C & C

CIEA-D

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

CREDIT RATINGS

Moody Blues

India's image crashes

IT was too good to last. India's more than five-year-long honeymoon with the sultans of international money markets had to sour sooner or later. And now it has. Coming close on the heels of the Gulf crisis which has given a massive Rs 5,000-crore (US $ 2.8 billion) shock to the Indian economy, another deadly salvo was fired on the country's already-tottering balance of payments.

In early-October, Moody's Investors Service, one of the two major US-based international credit rating agencies, downgraded India's country rating: to Baa1 (two notches below its earlier A2 level) for long-term debt and Prime-2 (down one place from Prime-1) for short-term debt. Thus, India came down from a position just below developed nations like the US, Japan and Germany to be placed on par with China and Thailand. The message was clear: there were now greater risks in lending to the Indian Government and the institutions whose debt it guarantees.

Compounding matters, the Moody's evaluation came barely two weeks after Standard & Poor's (S&P)—the other major US rating agency—also reduced India's rating to a disappointing BBB, placing it on par with countries like Turkey and Hungary. This signified that the country only had 'adequate' capacity to repay the interest and principal of loans taken and was the lowest rating in S&P's 'investment' category. Comments David H. Levey, associate director, Moody's Investors Service, in his report on India: "Moody's believes that the (Indian) Government does not have the capacity to achieve a rapid improvement in the Government deficit."

Since the credit rating of a government-controlled institution or corporation can only be as good or as bad as that of the sovereign—in this case, the Government of India—Moody's and S&P have automatically downgraded the ratings of major public sector borrowers in foreign currency like the Oil and Natural Gas Commission, State Bank of India, or the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India. Private companies which raise funds abroad will also be affected.

How damning is the decision to reduce India's rating? Undoubtedly, both long- and short-term commercial borrowings will become more expensive. Loans will still be available, though. After all, with annual borrowings of around $2 billion (Rs 3,400 crore) India is still a marginal player in the world money market, which is more than $800 billion (or a stupendous Rs 13,60,000 crore) a year.

The general consensus among government officials and bankers is that interest rates on long-term (above one year) commercial borrowings will go up by 0.15-0.20 per cent. In other words, while international banks were until recently willing to lend India funds at interest rates of 0.25-0.30 per cent above LIBOR (the London Inter-Bank Offer Rate, the benchmark rate at which banks loan money to one another), the interest rate will now be around 0.40-0.50 per cent above LIBOR. "We are back where we were 10 years ago," says a Finance Ministry official *(see table)*.

> **Interest rates came down during the '80s but they're now up.**

Average interest rates on India's long-term foreign commercial borrowings:

	(Basis points above LIBOR)
1977-78	100
1978-80	50-63
1981-83	38-50
1984-89	25
1990	30

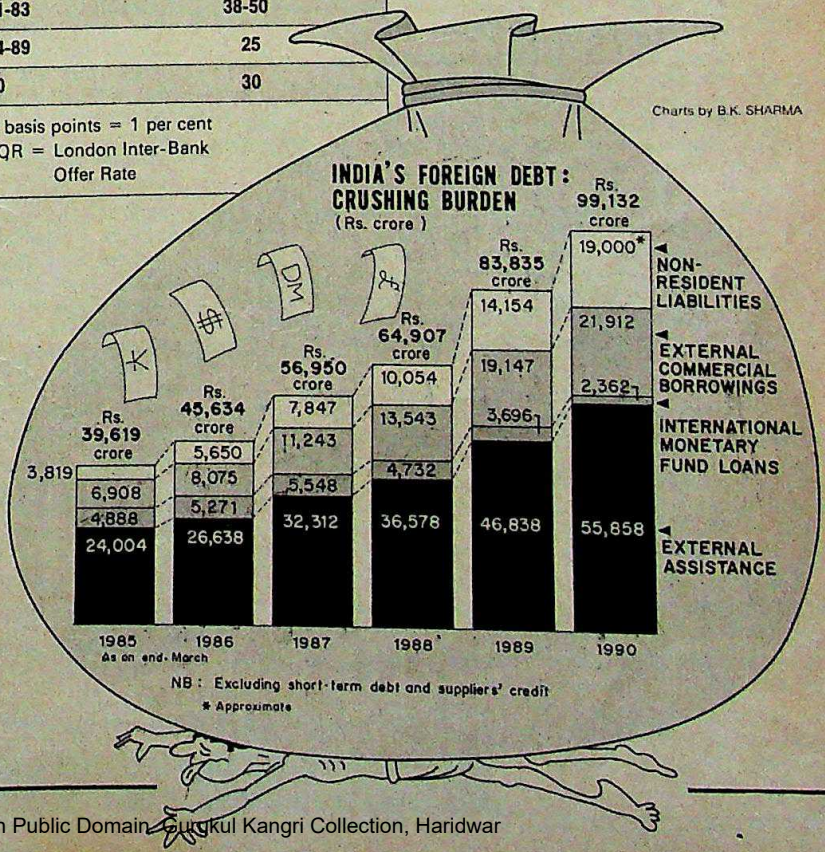
100 basis points = 1 per cent
LIBOR = London Inter-Bank Offer Rate

What does a hike in interest rates mean in terms of actual outgo of foreign exchange? On new borrowings of Rs 3,400 crore, a piffling Rs 6.8 crore. In addition, the country is paying around Rs 3,000 crore per year towards servicing its past borrowings, roughly half of it as interest and half as repayment of principal. Thus, an extra 0.2 per cent of Rs 1,500 crore of interest payments is only Rs 3 crore.

The situation is not all that bad, claim officials. This is because unlike the money markets in the US and Japan, the markets for syndicated loans (where banks form a consortium) and European bonds don't strictly go by credit ratings of Moody's and S&P. For instance, while countries like China and Turkey have the same ratings as India, they have been obtaining syndicated loans at relatively higher rates of interest. Examples: China and Turkey recently borrowed at 1 per cent and 0.75 per cent above LIBOR respectively.

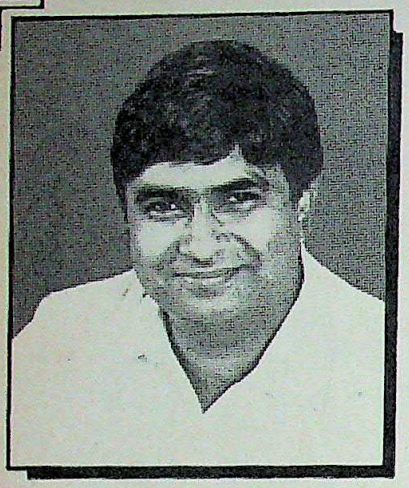
Still, India will henceforth have to look towards new markets and new ins-

Charts by B.K. SHARMA



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



Unity Steels Ltd.

Regd. Office : 413-15, PARADISE, OPP. COLLEGE, SAYAJIGUNJ, BARODA-390 005, INDIA.

THE CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS AT THE 7TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 10TH SEPTEMBER, 1990.

Dear Members,

I extend my hearty welcome to you all for attending the 7th Annual General Meeting of the Company. I am sure you must have gone through the Accounts for the year under review which I take as read.

The year under review has been an eventful one in the history of the company. The company has expanded capacity at its Halol Plant from 5,000 to 25,000 TPA and also acquired a Mini Steel Plant at Bhavnagar having installed capacity of 50,000 TPA from KEC International Ltd. in August, 1989. With help of both these, there was spectacular growth on the turnover and profit of the company. Turnover has jumped from Rs.8.13 Crores for 18 months to Rs.46.37 Crores for 15 months and the profit for the periods have been Rs.58.90 Lacs and Rs.191.38 Lacs. Encouraged with this result, your Directors have recommended this final dividend of 18% for the period over and above 10% already paid. The dividend will be payable on pro rata basis. Thus the total dividend for the period works out to 28% which is 22.4% on annualised basis compared to 18.6% on the previous year.

Our country has been facing perennial shortage of availability of indigenously produced steel inspite of the fact that the consumption per capita in the country is amongst the lowest in the world. The shortages have been persisting because of highly conservative policies of the Government of not allowing Private Sector to play major role for expanding the manufacturing base. However, the Government has now realised this important fact and finally decided to permit Private Sector to play an important role in the manufacturing of steel through primary and secondary routes both. The minimum installed capacity of individual plant which was earlier fixed at just 50,000 TPA has been raised to 2,50,000 TPA. This capacity is expected to be further revised upward to One Million Tonnes.

As you are all aware, our country's economy is growing at a very high fast rate, the consumption of steel also has increased very rapidly. The plans are for doubling steel output by end of this century from existing level of 15 Million Tonnes to 30 Million Tonnes. According to the planning commission, even with the estimated production level of 30 Million Tonnes by end of this century, there would still be availability gap of approximately 9 Million Tonnes.

In view of these facts, your Directors see very bright future in the coming years ahead.

The company has already received Letter of Intent for raising the capacity of Bhavnagar Plant from existing 50,000 Tonnes to 1,50,000 Tonnes and is further attempting to have the same revised to 2,50,000 Tonnes i.e. the minimum economic scale fixed by the Government. Your company proposes to initiate steps for implementing expansion to this capacity at an estimated cost of Rs.8 Crores. The Halol Plant is also undergoing major expansion and modernisation by importing and installing a Metal Refining Convertor from West Germany, a continuous slab casting plant and a Rolling Mill. The capital cost for all the three projects has been worked out at Rs.7.50 Crores. The company hopes to be able to put all these installations to operations by end of December, 1990. This will enable the company to have much higher value addition and profitability.

The company has been able to obtain registration from Government of India for manufacture of 6,20,000 MTs of Pig Iron at Sihore in Dist. Bhavnagar. Of this capacity your company is contemplating to set up a plant manufacturing 1,50,000 Tonnes of Pig Iron in the first phase, at a cost of Rs.85 Crores approximately. The necessary basic and detailed engineering, installing, commissioning and start-up of this plant has been assigned to MECON, Ranchi who have very long expertise in the field and also continuing technological assistance from Mansmann Demag of West Germany. To meet part cost of this project, your company may plan to come out with Equity or Debenture issue some time in the first quarter of 1991.

To be able to create in-house facility to consume the majority of steel produced by your company's plant, your Directors have also decided to put up a Forging Unit comprising of closed and open Die Forging facilities and accordingly a new company in the name and style of Unity Foundry Forge Limited has been framed to take up the project at a cost of Rs.22.50 Crores to be implemented in two phases. The company is in process of acquiring approximately 22 acres of land in GIDC Industrial Estate at Halol for implementing this project. The company will come out for Public Issue some time in November/December, 1990.

I wish to place my thanks to Banks, Shareholders, Depositors, Executives, staff and workers for their continued support and co-operation and look forward the same to continue in future.

Thank you!

A. S. BHATTAR
CHAIRMAN & MANAGING DIRECTOR

NOTE : This does not purport to be a record of the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting.

Where growth is a way of life.

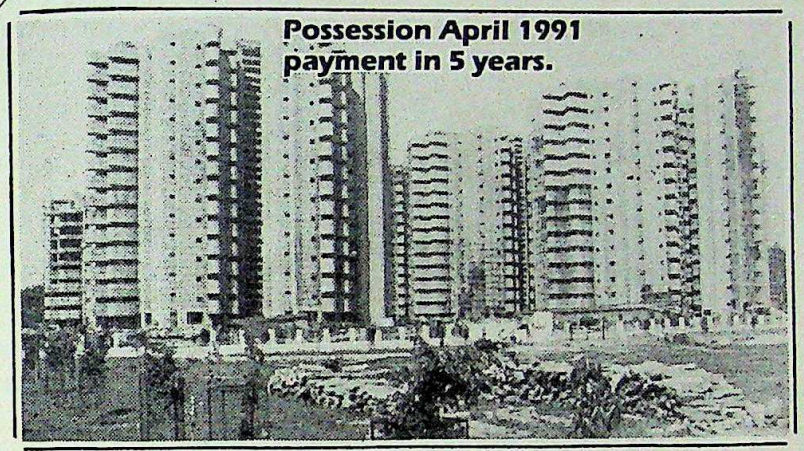
Concept

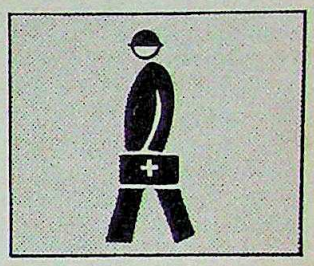
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

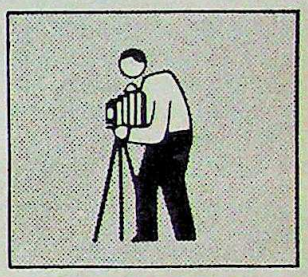
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

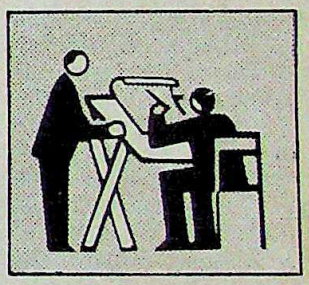
Attention Professionals!

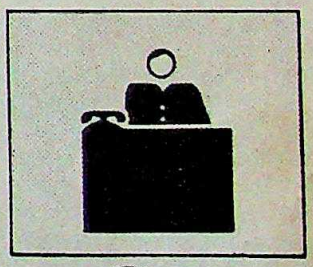
- Lawyers
- Doctors
- Architects
- Consultants
- Chartered Accountants
- And Others











A chance to get Commercial space without Auction, on fixed price at Kaushambi

Offers are invited from professionals for chambers located on the ground floor at Kaushambi Apartments.

Also

ready-made 2/3 room Deluxe Apartments are available, for applicants of the chambers, on cash-down basis.

Kaushambi Apartments are set amidst undulating greens, with all facilities and conveniences built-in. They offer excellent prospects to professionals to set up offices.

In addition, Kaushambi gives a futuristic advantage, with close proximity to a host of facilities slated for development in nearby Delhi - an Inter State Bus Terminus, a Railway Station just 2 kms. away at Anand Vihar, Laxmi Nagar District Centre, Patparganj Industrial Area to name a few.

50% of the chambers are earmarked for allottees of Apartments and 25% on cash-down basis.

GDA has the right to accept or reject any offer without assigning any reason thereof.

Registration from 10.10.90 to 9.11.90

R.B. Maurya
Secretary

P.N. Misra
Vice Chairman

Ghaziabad Development Authority

Vikas Path, Ghaziabad.
Telex: 0592-212 GDA-IN, FAX: 91-118-714904

A beautiful City—our commitment.

Kriti

Brouchers containing full details can be had from following branches of ORIENTAL BANK OF COMMERCE on Payment of Rs. 50/- (fifty only) & can be obtained by sending Money Order of Rs. 60/- Sixty to ORIENTAL BANK OF COMMERCE B-193, Lohiya Nagar, Ghaziabad (U.P.)

ORIENTAL BANK OF COMMERCE

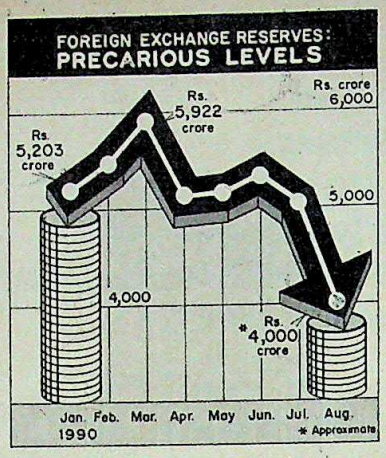
GHAZIABAD B—193 Lohia Nagar (Rahool Palace), **NEW DELHI:** A-30 to 33 FirstFloor Connaught Place • Priya Cinema Complex First Floor, Basant Lok **DELHI:** Darya Ganj. Netaji Subhash Marg • F-6/7, Vijay Chowk, Laxminagar, **BOMBAY:** 1, Dr. V.B. Gahdhi Marg, Fort, **MADRAS:** 769, Anna Salai, Mount Road **CALCUTTA:** 25, Thapar House, Brabourne Road, **AMRITSAR:** Civil Lines Queen's Road. **LUDHIYANA:** Chaura Bazar. **PATIALA:** The Mall, **CHANDIGARH:** Sector 17-B, **MEERUT:** Sadar Bazar **LUCKNOW:** 94, Mahatama Gandhi Marg, Hazrat Ganj, **KANPUR:** The Mall

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

truments, argues a senior executive of the State Bank of India. Adds Raj Mundal, vice-president (international), Creditcapital Finance Corporation: "New financial instruments like American Depository Receipts, Euro-convertibles and country mutual funds are what we should look at very seriously now."

Not everyone is as comfortable about this re-assessment of India's creditworthiness. Debt that has been raised in the primary market is often traded in the secondary market, just like shares in a stock-market. By lowering the rating of a country, this debt becomes less attractive and trades at a discount. Take the case of the American Chase Manhattan Bank. In what appears to be a knee-jerk reaction, in early-October Chase is believed to have flogged Air India debt worth US $5 million (Rs 8.5 crore) at an undisclosed discount to the Bank of Credit and Commerce International, a loan which Chase had earlier picked up as part of a consortium.



What are the options before the country? Attract more funds from non-resident Indians, ask foreigners to invest more and finally, make a trip to the Washington headquarters of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The Gulf crisis has resulted in a hefty chunk of NRI remittances drying up. With the Government dilly-dallying on finalising the positive list of industries where foreign investment would be encouraged, investors from abroad are not particularly enthusiastic.

What remains is a new loan from the IMF. India has already raised about US $1 billion (Rs 1,700 crore) from the IMF under its contingency compensatory financing facility besides another US $700 million (Rs 1,200 crore) through another window, both without any conditionalities attached. But any further borrowings from the IMF are bound to attract stiff conditions, including lowering the budget deficit and hiking tariffs of public utilities like power and transport. All of which may be politically unpalatable. "Some of the recent statements by our ministers give an impression that we are preparing the ground for a new IMF loan," says the spokesman of a leading industry association.

Will that happen? The Government is for the time being noncommittal. But others argue that we don't have much of a choice.

—SHIV TANEJA with PARANJOY GUHA THAKURTA

IRON ORE

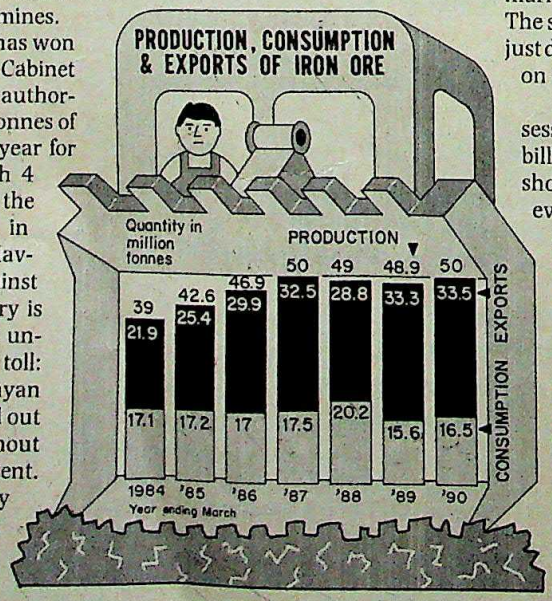
Metallic Mess

Row over export of high-grade ore

THE Government's right hand often doesn't know what its left hand is doing. That's hardly an earth-shaking revelation. But when one ministry goes hammer and tongs against another, it creates a lot of bad blood. And this is exactly what has happened in the dispute which has raged for nearly two months between the Commerce Ministry headed by Arun Nehru and the Ministry of Steel and Mines led by Dinesh Goswami. The bone of contention: Japan's purchases of the country's best iron ore found in Madhya Pradesh's Bailadilla mines.

For the time being Nehru has won the battle. In late-August, the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs authorised the export of 6.5 million tonnes of Bailadilla ore to Japan every year for the next five years, of which 4 million tonnes would be in the form of lumps (which are in greater demand), not fines. Having fought tooth-and-nail against this decision, the Steel Ministry is now sulking in a corner. The unseemly skirmish has taken its toll: Steel Secretary R. Venkatanarayan was unceremoniously shunted out of his post last fortnight without Goswami's knowledge or consent.

The crux of the controversy can be easily explained. A developing country like India should export more finished products instead of raw materials in order to add value to exports. Unless, of course, the country does not have the wherewithal to efficiently convert the raw material it is exporting to finished output. Such a proposition seems simple and logical enough. But major hitches crop up when it has to be translated into practice. Particularly when different ministries put out different sets of statistics to bolster their respective points of view *(see charts)*.



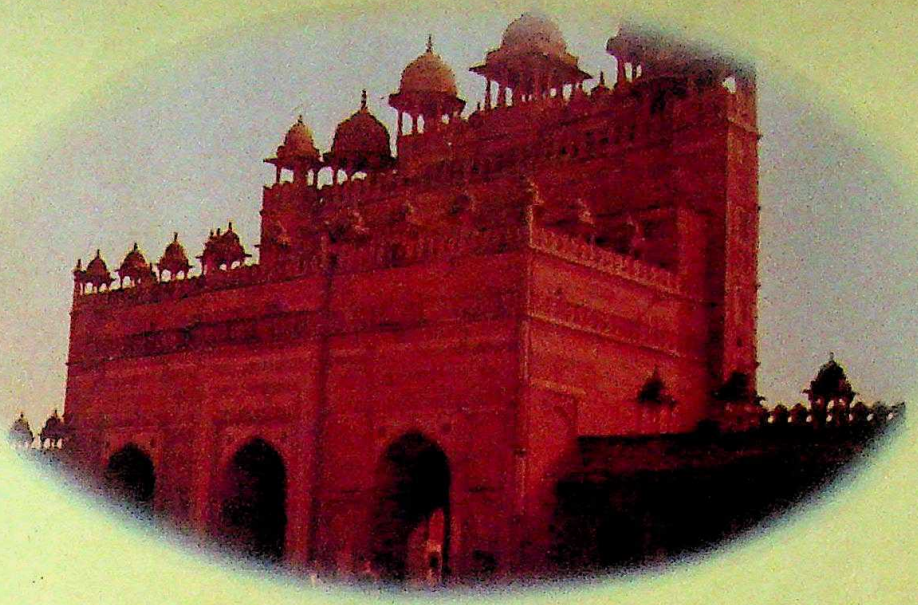
There are two broad issues at stake. The first relates to how long the country's reserves of high-grade iron ore will last. Then, comes the question about whether or not India will be in a position to convert the ore it is currently exporting into finished steel in the next five years and be able to market the steel outside the country. The steel and the commerce ministries just don't see eye to eye with each other on these issues.

India is currently said to be possessing anywhere between 12 and 19 billion tonnes of iron ore which should last it two to three centuries even if steel production increases dramatically. That's not an issue of debate. What is contentious, however, is how long the country's reserves of high-grade ore—with 62 per cent plus iron content—will last. Besides the Bailadilla mines, similar quality iron ore is found only in two other countries in the world—Brazil and Australia.

The Steel Ministry claims that Bailadilla's ore reserves of 900 million tonnes will be over in 40-50 years once the

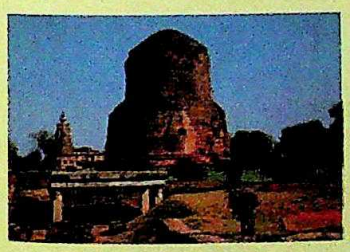
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



If your view of history ended with the books. May we recommend a new chapter

The pages of history are replete with drama of times past. Wouldn't it be beautiful



to be part of its glory? Traverse across Varanasi, 26 centuries old and Sarnath a short distance away, where Lord Buddha gave his first sermon. Or visit Allahabad, the land of three rivers, the place where Hiuen Tsang chronicled the rich past. Or experience a day in the life of Lucknow, a place of refined cultures. Then move across the wonder of the world — the *Taj, Fatehpur Sikri* the 'victory city' that houses *Diwan-i-Khas* and *Buland Darwaja,* the largest gateway in India. And on to Bundelkhand famous for its temples and forts and round up the voyage with the land of *Rani Jhansi* ...

U.P. enlivens every visit with an endless charm and novel stories no history book can tell you! Experience it!

HOLIDAY WONDERLAND UTTAR PRADESH

UTTAR PRADESH TOURISM

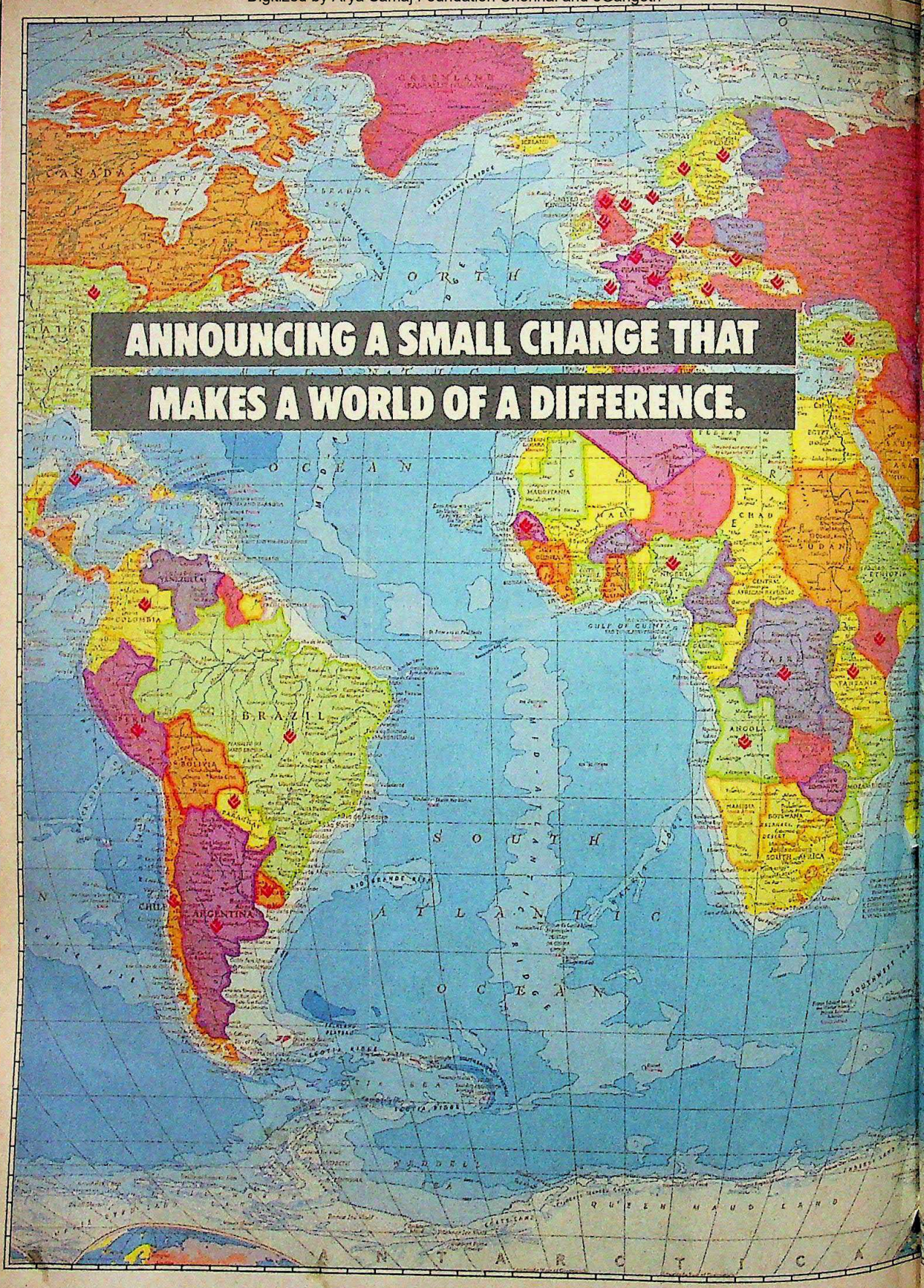
For more information write to :

'Chitrahar'
3 Newal Kishore Road,
Lucknow-226 001. Tel : 248349.
Also at :
Ahmedabad : Ph : 464318, Bombay : Ph : 215458 Calcutta : Ph : 207855, Chandigarh : Ph : 41649 New Delhi : Ph : 3322251 Madras : Ph : 479726

ULKA-D-UPT-351

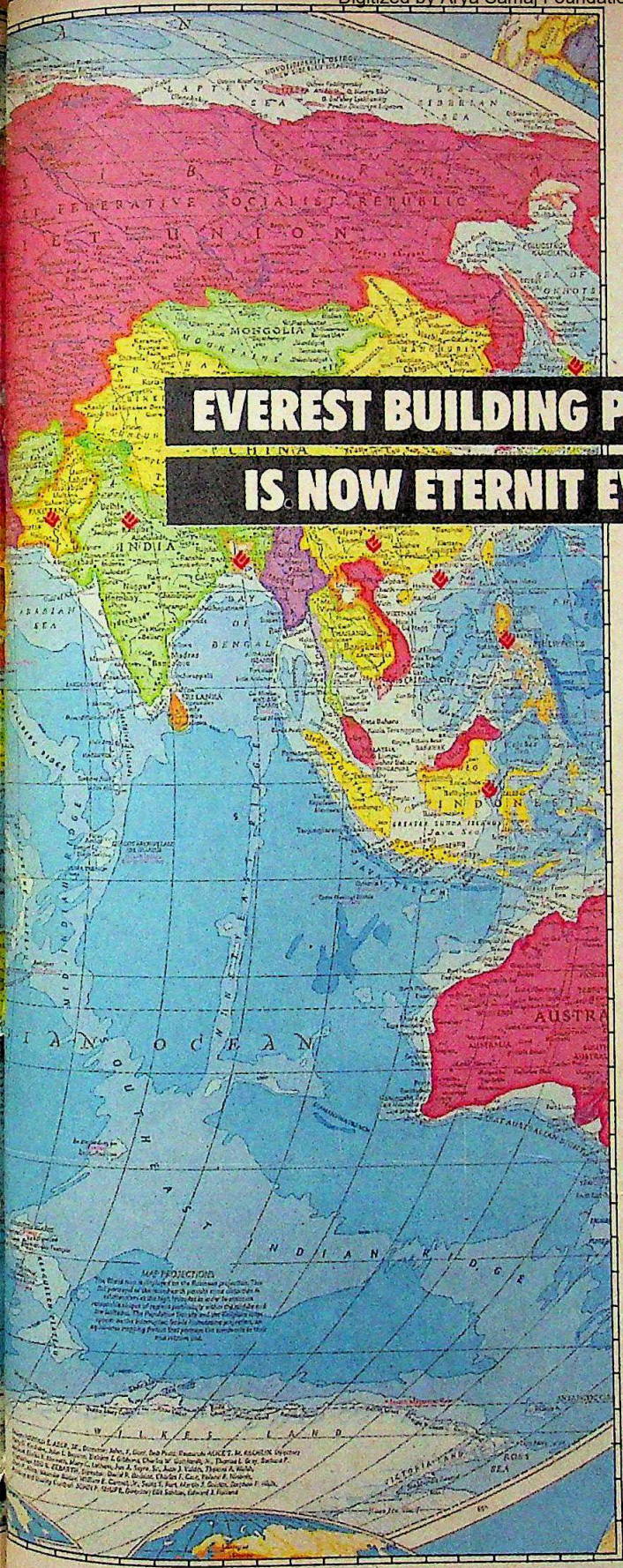
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



Fifty six years ago, Everest pioneered the fibre cement industry in India. Today it continues to be the leader. Providing uncompromising quality and service. Year after year.

EVEREST
FIBRE CEMENT PRODUCTS

Over a year ago, Everest became part

EVEREST BUILDING PRODUCTS LIMITED
IS NOW ETERNIT EVEREST LIMITED.

of the Belgian Eternit Group, the world's largest manufacturer of fibre cement products, well diversified into a wide range of building materials. With a global network spanning 36 countries, across 5 continents.

Eternit

Bringing you the benefits of international expertise, world class technology and product innovation, right here in India.

And to reflect the international character, we have changed our name.

From Everest Building Products Limited to Eternit Everest Limited.

Eternit Everest Ltd.
MEMBER OF THE BELGIAN ETERNIT GROUP
EXCELLENCE. PROVEN WORLDWIDE.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

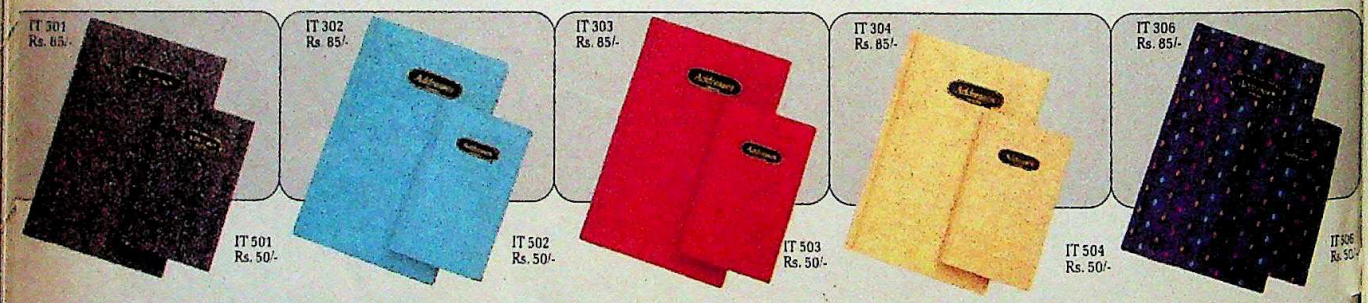
Enterprise/D/EBPL/553

Address Books as distinctive as your address

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

IT 305
Rs. 85/-

IT 505
Rs. 50/-



IT 301 Rs. 85/-
IT 501 Rs. 50/-
IT 302 Rs. 85/-
IT 502 Rs. 50/-
IT 303 Rs. 85/-
IT 503 Rs. 50/-
IT 304 Rs. 85/-
IT 504 Rs. 50/-
IT 306 Rs. 85/-
IT 506 Rs. 50/-

INDIA TODAY ADDRESS BOOKS

A choice of Address Books for use in the office or at home. Each Address Book is attractively produced with a distinctive fabric covering, specially designed to express your individuality.

Inside, each of these exclusive Address Books have room for 1380 names, addresses and telephone numbers complete with alphabetical indexing. Handy sections for personal information and emergency numbers. A ready-to-use listing of ISD and STD codes as well as the time around the world.

Handy Pocket Address Book

This comprehensive range of Address Books is also available in a compact, carry-around size. With these compact Address Books you can carry the addresses of 798 contacts, at all times on your person.

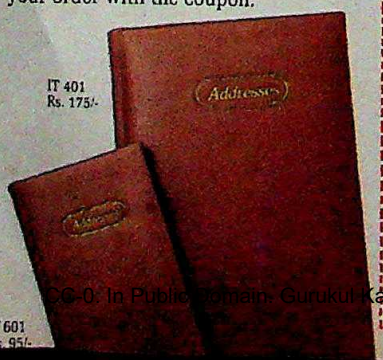
The range includes:

* Herringbone tweed. (IT 301, 501)
* Rich Bhagalpur silk in red, turquoise blue or beige. (IT 303, 503, IT 302, 502, IT 304, 504)
* Traditional cotton with woven motifs on navy blue ground. (IT 306, 506)
* Classic black rayon overprinted with a delicate floral design. (IT 601)

The Richness of Leather: The luxury option of leather bound Regular and Pocket Address Books has also been introduced for the first time. Incorporating all the features of the fabric-bound set, these beautifully crafted Address Books have been meticulously finished to highlight the grain and texture of rich brown real leather.

Personalisation option: The leather Address Books can be further personalized with upto 3 initials, gold embossed at no extra charge.

Make your selection now and send in your order with the coupon.



IT 401
Rs. 175/-

Please Note:

* Add Rs. 5/- for outstation cheques i.e. cheques outside Delhi.
* Cheques/Demand Drafts payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Delhi must be MICR only.
* Address books will be home delivered by Registered post/Courier. Please allow lead time of 6-8 weeks after placement of order for delivery.
* Extra for gold embossing of initials on the leather address books @ Rs. 10/- per address book.
* For gift instructions please give recipients name and address alongwith details for embossing initials (for leather address book) on a separate sheet.
* Prints and colours in the photographs are representative.
* Offer and rates valid in India only.

I enclose a crossed Cheque/DD for Rs. _____ (add Rs. 5/- for outstation cheques i.e. outside Delhi) payable to 'Living Media India Ltd'.

The code numbers and quantities of the address books required by me are indicated below. (Use separate sheet for orders exceeding 4 varieties).

Code	Price	Qty	Total Amt.

Name : _____

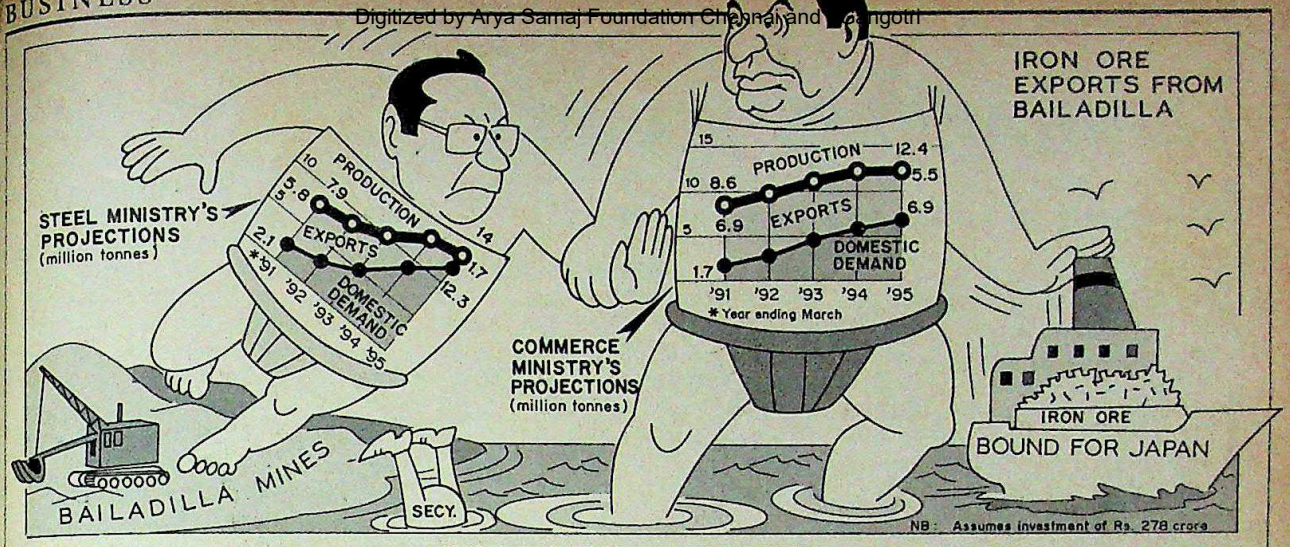
Address : _____

For leather address books, Please give a maximum of 3 initials per leather address book ordered. Kindly enclose the initials on a separate sheet

Mail your order to: Living Media India Ltd.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



Visakhapatnam steel plant and other private sector projects manufacturing sponge and pig iron are established. Not correct, says the Commerce Ministry. Citing surveys conducted by agencies under the Ministry of Steel and Mines, Commerce Ministry officials claim that Bailadilla's high-grade reserves will last more than a century.

The Steel Ministry's viewpoint may be summarised thus. Exports of iron ore should not jeopardise domestic industry's long-term requirements. India should export more steel, not ore—exports of 1.5 million tonnes of steel can fetch the country more foreign exchange than exports of 30 million tonnes of ore. Further, it is contended that the country should conserve its best ore for domestic users. "Prior to Independence, virtually all our top quality coking coal was exported and today we're having to import such coal—let this story not be repeated in the case of Bailadilla ore," says an official in the Steel Ministry.

The Vizag steel plant—which has started manufacturing pig iron and will soon be commencing steel production—is totally dependent on Bailadilla. So will eight or nine new projects which are expected to come up in the next five to seven years. Thus, the Steel Ministry feels that exports of Bailadilla ore should be steadily tapered off in the interests of conserving a scarce national resource. It is also argued that India should attempt to export to countries other than Japan which buys nearly two-thirds of the country's total ore exports.

But this is easier said than done for at least two important reasons. One, Japan picks up more than 35 per cent of global iron ore exports. "To say our iron ore exports depend on Japan is to state the obvious," argues a Commerce Ministry official. Then, if India is to export ore to, say, European countries instead of Japan, freight costs would more than double, thereby jacking up the landed price of exports. The Commerce Ministry has put forward more convincing arguments in favour of higher ore exports to Japan.

While the Steel Ministry feels India will not have surplus ore to export five years hence, the Commerce Ministry disagrees.

SAYS one official: "There may be a thousand and one reasons why steel production in India has not picked up but shortage of ore is not among them." Over the last 15 years or so, world steel production has hovered around 750 million tonnes and not gone up very much. This is because steel is being increasingly replaced by aluminium and plastic materials in the construction and automobile industries. Also more and more steel is being produced by electric arc furnaces which use sponge iron and scrap as raw materials and not by blast furnaces which use ore. "Given the uncertain nature of future world demand, we should not be unduly concerned about conserving our ore reserves," says S.V.S. Raghavan, chairman, Bharat Business International Ltd, a corporation under the Commerce Ministry which handles iron ore exports.

Commerce Ministry sources further contend that the expected rise in domestic demand for ore may not materialise since some of the private sector schemes to utilise the ore—such as the Essar group's Kakinada project—will not come up in the next five years. Moreover, they claim that the Government had committed itself to exporting 6.5 million tonnes to Japan in December 1986—the Steel Ministry claims that no commitment was made, only a production plan was drawn up.

The Commerce Ministry argues that at the present juncture the country needs foreign exchange very badly, and that world ore prices have started rising since early-1989 after four years of decline. It further emphasises that additional exports of high-grade ore to Japan will be undertaken only for the next five years, not longer. The ministry also points out discrepancies in the estimates of surplus ore in different notes prepared by the Steel Ministry for the Cabinet.

All these arguments and counter-arguments are merely of academic interest today since the Steel Ministry has lost the fight. And can do nothing but fondly hope that subsequent events will prove them correct. "The Cabinet's decision is binding on the Steel Ministry, but our projections are different from those of the Commerce Ministry," Goswami told INDIA TODAY. He feels that domestic ore demand will pick up sufficiently in 1993-94 and 1994-95 and this will make it difficult for the country to fulfil its export commitment to Japan. "If that happens, we shouldn't be held responsible," he adds.

As always, time is the final arbiter of all disputes. And history will judge which ministry's assessment was the more accurate one.

—PARANJOY GUHA THAKURTA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

AIR INDIA

Landing into Trouble

Gulf crisis has airline in financial straits

IT is the best of times for Air India—a time of earned goodwill, as the national carrier has brought back over 101,250 people in less than two months from the crisis-ridden hell-hole of West Asia, a record for a civilian airlift. And it is also the worst of times for the airline—after two consecutive years of record net profits (1989: Rs 40 crore; 1990: Rs 75 crore), it seems as if its bottom-line will be smeared with red ink.

The herculean airlift—which required Air India to deploy two 747s, three A 310s and to obtain on wet lease four A 320s and two A 300s from Indian Airlines—has earned the airline the gratitude of thousands of Indians. But along with this have come "intangible" losses: of passengers switching to other airlines, delayed flights, and irate passengers vowing never to fly the carrier again. Says Gupte: "Our intangible losses are substantial."

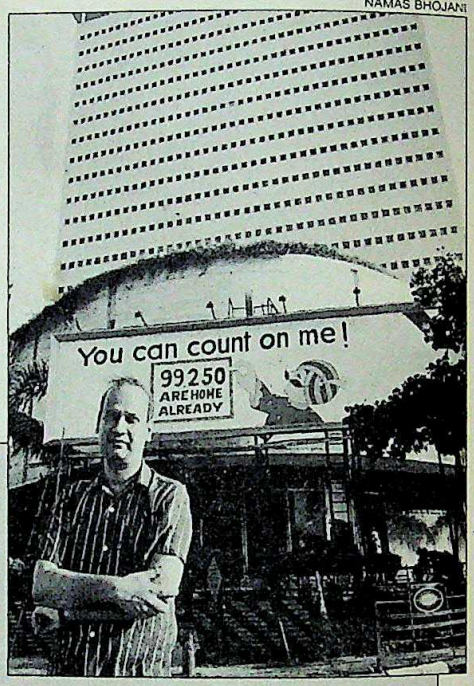
Clearly, you can't run an airline on sentiments alone. It requires money—lots of it. Air India has already billed the Government Rs 185 crore for expenses incurred for the airlift charters. But it doesn't know when it will get reimbursed (Ministry of External Affairs officials contend the airline will be paid "soon", in foreign exchange, as the airline demands). Moreover, since the Gulf crisis, the cost of aircraft fuel has jumped from 93 cents to 183 cents a gallon, creating a huge hole in the airline's kitty (Rs 140 crore). Even insurance rates have shot up (impact: Rs 40 crore). Admits Acting Chairman and Managing Director Subhash Gupte: "We are facing a severe cash crunch." Worse, the Government has cut the fuel subsidy Air India used to get for picking up its oil in India from 30 to 15 per cent. Kuwait—a veritable cash cow—is lost as a profit centre. Michael Mascarenhas, regional director of Air India for the Gulf, says: "Kuwait yielded Rs 40 crore annually, of which Rs 25 crore was profit."

But the potential net loss this year—estimated by Air India at Rs 120 crore—is not the only cause for concern. Gupte also has to contend with other long-term problems such as regaining the confidence of the international business travel community which deserted Air India during its hour of crisis. (During the last two months, Air India couldn't operate 68 flights on various routes and 70 flights for Kuwait had to be cancelled).

Besides, Air India has made intensive use of its aircraft during the airlift, often flying 20 hours a day. One consequence: at least three aircraft will have to be grounded for overhauling, which would further affect the airline's schedule during the lucrative winter months.

The crisis has come at a time when things were looking really good for Air India. The airline had posted record profits over the last two years, and had earned a profit of Rs 25 crore (as against a budgeted Rs 22 crore) up to August this year. Says Gupte: "We would have posted a net profit of Rs 70 crore in a normal year." Set on a rapid pace by former managing director Rajan Jetley who had targeted a net profit of Rs 100 crore by 1993 before his premature resignation, the airline ran into rough weather over the troubled waters of the Gulf.

NAMAS BHOJANI



■ Acting Chairman Subhash Gupte

> "We are facing a severe cash crunch because of the Gulf crisis. Our intangible losses are substantial."

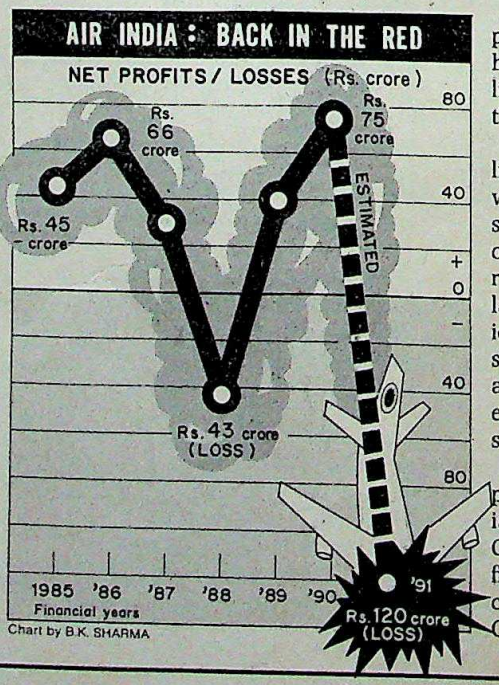


Chart by B.K. SHARMA

To deal with the crisis, the airline has announced cost cuts. This will be followed by a possible closure of one or two routes, merging of stations, cutting some flights, rationalising of offices, and possible lay-offs. Even the new corporate identity programme will have to slowed down. Says Gupte: "We'll also have to take a hard look at our establishments abroad." Expected savings: Rs 40 crore to Rs 50 crore.

Also, the hawking of Hotel Corporation of India (HCI)—a subsidiary of Air India which runs the Centaur chain of hotels—is in its final stages, with a government clearance expected in two months. Citibank is revaluing HCI's assets

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

SIKKIM

It's new, It's novel, It's nice

Information

Transport Air: Regular flights from Delhi, Calcutta to Bagdogra, the nearest airport, 124 Kms from Gangtok. Onward journey by road – approx. 5 hrs.

Rail: The closest railway stations are Siliguri (114 Kms) and New Jalpaiguri (125 Kms) connecting Calcutta, Delhi and other important Indian Cities.

Road: Gangtok has road links with Darjeeling, Kalimpong, Siliguri and other centres. The Department of Tourism, Government of Sikkim, operates a fleet of cars, jeeps & luxury coaches. Private cars and taxis are also available.

Accommodation: The starred hotels at Gangtok are Mayur, Orchid, Tashi Delek and Tibet. Also several moderately priced comfortable hotels and lodges are available.

Package Tours: Many package tours are also available.

Best Seasons: Mid-February to May and October to December.

Come to Sikkim and discover a heritage that's ever alive and new. A tradition that's so novel and unique. And a culture that makes you feel nice and warm all over.

Sikkim

the ultimate destination

For further information, Contact:

Gangtok
Tourist Information Centre,
M.G. Marg,
Gangtok-737101, Sikkim
Ph: 2064.

Siliguri
Tourist Information Centre,
SNT Complex, Pradhan Nagar,
Siliguri, West Bengal
Ph.: 24602.

Calcutta
Tourist Information Centre,
4C, Poonam, 5/2, Russel Street,
Calcutta - 700017.
Ph.: 297516, 296717, 298983.

Delhi
Sikkim House Annexe,
14, Panchsheel Marg, Chanakyapuri,
New Delhi-110021
Ph.: 3015346.

Foreigners welcome to Sikkim, Permission available almost immediately at Indian Embassies abroad, Foreign Registration Offices in India and Sikkim Tourism offices at Delhi, Siliguri and Calcutta.

B4/ST/G3('90)

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

HOW TO MAKE STEEL WALK.

Over rough mining country, over miles of dockyards, over shop-floors.

Mukand does it.

Mukand's Machine Building Division sculpts steel into India's largest industrial machines, steel plants and bulk material handling equipment. The Division built India's first mobile service structure for the vertical assembly of rockets for the Indian Space Research Organisation. An achievement that illustrates Mukand's versatility as an engineering and project consultancy company. With the Division's unmatched design, manufacturing and

CASTINGS ◆ SPECIALITY STEELS ◆ MACHINE

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

on-site capabilities, not even the sky is the limit.

Mukand is also India's largest producer of the widest range of stainless and speciality steels. It is the largest steel foundry in the private sector and leads in exports of alloy steel castings; designs and builds some of India's biggest, most complex cranes and machines. Making it a multi-product, multi-division, Rs. 500-crore conglomerate.

The commitment of Mukand's people to technology, innovation, research and development has given them a rare insight into steel and its applications. Mukand knows how to make steel, engineer it and use it effectively.

In 50 years, Mukand has truly become a mastermind in steel.

MUKAND LTD.
(Formerly Mukand Iron & Steel Works Ltd.)
L.B.S. Marg, Kurla, Bombay 400 070

MUKAND. MASTERMINDS IN STEEL

BUILDING ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Rediffusion/M/90/264 d

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

CC-0. In Public Domain. Kangri Collection

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

and its report is expected soon. Air India intends remaining only an investor.

At the same time, Air India will service the Soviet Union more frequently, and the Canada route—closed since the Kanishka crash in 1985—will re-open.

If all these plans materialise—and that is a big if—Air India, instead of sinking in the red, could register an operating profit of Rs 70 crore, according to Gupte. And if its "extraordinary income" (from the sale of old aircraft, its hotel subsidiary and so on) materialises, Gupte is confident that, despite all the glitches, the airline could even close the year with a net profit.

Gupte should know. Known in aviation circles as a prudent finance manager, he is a trained chartered accountant who's earlier worked with Ferguson's and Caltex. International bankers regard him as the financial wizard who got Air India excellent loan rates over the last two years, provoking the *Asian Wall Street Journal* to do a front-page news about Air India's financial management.

It routinely got interest rates for lease financing at Libor (London Interbank Offered Rate), something only the soundest blue chip concerns get. Earlier this year, Air India locked interest rates at 9.02 per cent for a 10-year debt to finance the purchase of two aircraft: the rates today are 9.8 per cent. Net savings of foreign exchange for the country: $23 million (Rs 40.25 crore). By swapping debt from French to Japanese leases, Air India came out a winner in the deal. Moreover, Air India even got rebate on tax benefits from the investors of the lease.

Air India now has several plans to increase earnings. It is actively pursuing the proposal to acquire four 747-400s. Then, for fleet regularisation, it is considering options for 1996-97, to acquire long-haul medium-capacity aircraft. Contenders: Airbus A 340, McDonnell-Douglas MD-11, and Boeing 767X (if launched). The only spanner in the works: India's downgrading by Moody's and Standard and Poor, international credit rating agencies.

Moreover, next month, after the last Indian leaves Kuwait, Air India plans a major advertisement campaign worldwide: 'We're back at your service.' It may then be business as usual again. But even if the year ends in the red for the airline, the Amman airlift will undoubtedly go down as Air India's finest hour. —SALIL TRIPATHI

LML-PIAGGIO

Revving Up

Tie up to overhaul image

FOR scooter king Rahul Bajaj it could well prove a major challenge. In a significant move last fortnight, Italian giants Piaggio tied up with Bajaj's Indian rival, the Rs 206 crore LML Ltd—which has 16 per cent of the Indian market compared to Bajaj's 74 per cent—in an equity participation. Piaggio will pick up 28.5 per cent of the total paid up capital of Rs 28.5 crore in the company and induct three directors on the LML board. Says Giovanni Alberto Agnelli, vice-president of Piaggio: "It will benefit everyone." The collaboration will allow LML access to the latest Italian technology, and Piaggio will provide them marketing support to compete in the international market—where Bajaj is determined to make a big dent.

But convincing Piaggio to invest in LML was not easy. The company signed a technical collaboration agreement with LML in 1982 which was to lapse in 1994. There was speculation that Piaggio and LML were on the verge of pulling out and Piaggio was signing up with Bajaj—in order to jointly take on the Japanese in the international scooter market. Admits Agnelli: "We talked with Bajaj but I don't think they need our technology. We preferred to go with LML." There was a rider though: Piaggio was ready to put in equity only after LML sold off its fibre units for Rs 71 crore.

SHARAD SEXENA

Piaggio's Agnelli: profitable prospects

"Bajaj didn't seem to need our technology so we preferred to go with LML."

The cash will enable LML to put its house in order. For over four years LML has skipped dividends as the accumulated losses reached Rs 15.81 crore. The company which collected Rs 115 crore as deposits for booking scooters has still not paid dues of as much as Rs 26 crore. The National Consumer Redressal Commission directed the company recently to pay 18 per cent interest on the deposit money instead of the stipulated 11 per cent, which means an extra burden of over Rs 1 crore. Says Deepak Singhania, managing director: "We are committed to pay back every penny we have taken. Initially we will pay everyone a part of the deposit money." Still LML is not ready to fix a deadline for the money to be returned.

But the new agreement will give LML a marketing and quality edge over its rivals. For one, it will now be better situated to make a serious attempt at penetrating foreign markets. It expects at least 20 per cent of the production to go for exports—an ambitious target. But Piaggio is working out a plan for using India as a base to manufacture scooter components to be shipped to Italy. Later, it might shift part of its production to India. It will also open up foreign markets—especially in south-east Asia—for the company.

LML will soon introduce a 50 cc scooter to compete with the Bajaj scooterette Sunny and the three-wheelers where Bajaj has more than 83 per cent of the market.

That's not all. Piaggio is considering investing in ancillary units to be set up in India. But Agnelli has cautioned that quality products should be produced before they help in marketing.

In the world market, Piaggio trails both Honda and Bajaj and the stakes are high in this latest round of the scooter battle. Whoever wins, Indian roads will soon be teeming with super scooters. —SURAJEET DAS GUPTA

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Let's celebrate 50 y
of hope, drama, action, despair, eniu

The story of Simpsons is almost a parable of life. Success has been tempered with disappointment. Victory often snatched from the jaws of defeat.

Simpsons chose the way of the pioneer ... and received the baptism of fire that goes with the role. Dispelling the doubts and skepticism against motor transport took years of hard work ... but the taste of success lingers.

A long road, these 150 years. Sometimes made rocky by the disappointments and missed opportunities that are a part of human endeavour.

But in the tumultuous, eventful, changing times of Simpsons' existence, one valuable lesson remains ... that the most important thing in life is life itself.

Simpsons today

From crafting horse-drawn carriages, to pioneering motorized transportation, to manufacturing diesel engines sought after for vehicular, agricultural, industrial and marine applications. That, in a nutshell, is the saga of Simpsons – from a company of artisans to a prime mover of industry.

Amalgamations : powerhouse to a nation

A group of companies dedicated to a technologically advanced India. Pumping the lifeblood of a modern industrial nation. A technological titan.

That was the concept of industrialist Anantharamakrishnan and Amalgamations ... and Simpsons the hammer and chisel that sculpted it into reality. Using the experience and knowledge of a century to launch an industrial colossus. Aided in this era of progress by collaborations with a roster of world renowned corporations from Europe, the USA and Australia – Perkins, Massey Ferguson, T&N Group, United Engineering & Forgings, Van Moppes, Clevite and Repco. A roster in recent times expanded to include Yuasa, NPR, Nippon Oils & Fats of Japan, SAFT of France and Bookers of the UK.

Simpsons: catalyst of an industrial chain reaction

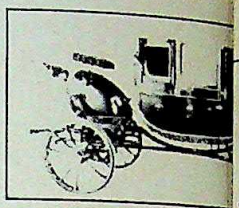
A Rs.720-crore conglomerate. With 29 companies. Spanning vastly diverse manufacturing and service fields. Including TAFE, Amco Batteries, Bimetal Bearings, India Pistons, Addison & Co., T. Stanes & Co., Shardlow India, Addisons Paints & Chemicals, Amalgamations Repco, George Oakes, Indiapistons - Repco, Stanes Motors, Sri Rama Vilas Service, Higginbothams ... the list goes on.

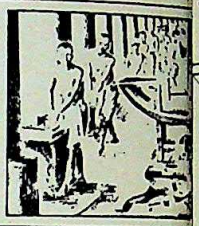
And a product portfolio ranging from diesel engines, cutting tools, tractors and paints to piston assemblies, crankshafts and clutch products. And non-manufacturing interests ranging from clearing & forwarding, hire-purchase / leasing and tyre retreading to plantation products' distribution.

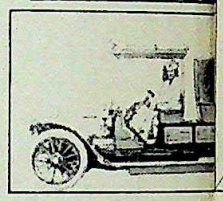
And, ever conscious of the social responsibility of business, aiding in community development, health and education. Through the establishment of schools, colleges, a rehabilitation centre, hospitals, eye clinics ...

A vision come true. And yet growing. For how can something static be forged on a dynamic anvil ?

To be able to live life to the full is a blessing. But to breathe life into others ... that is a reward immeasurable in words.







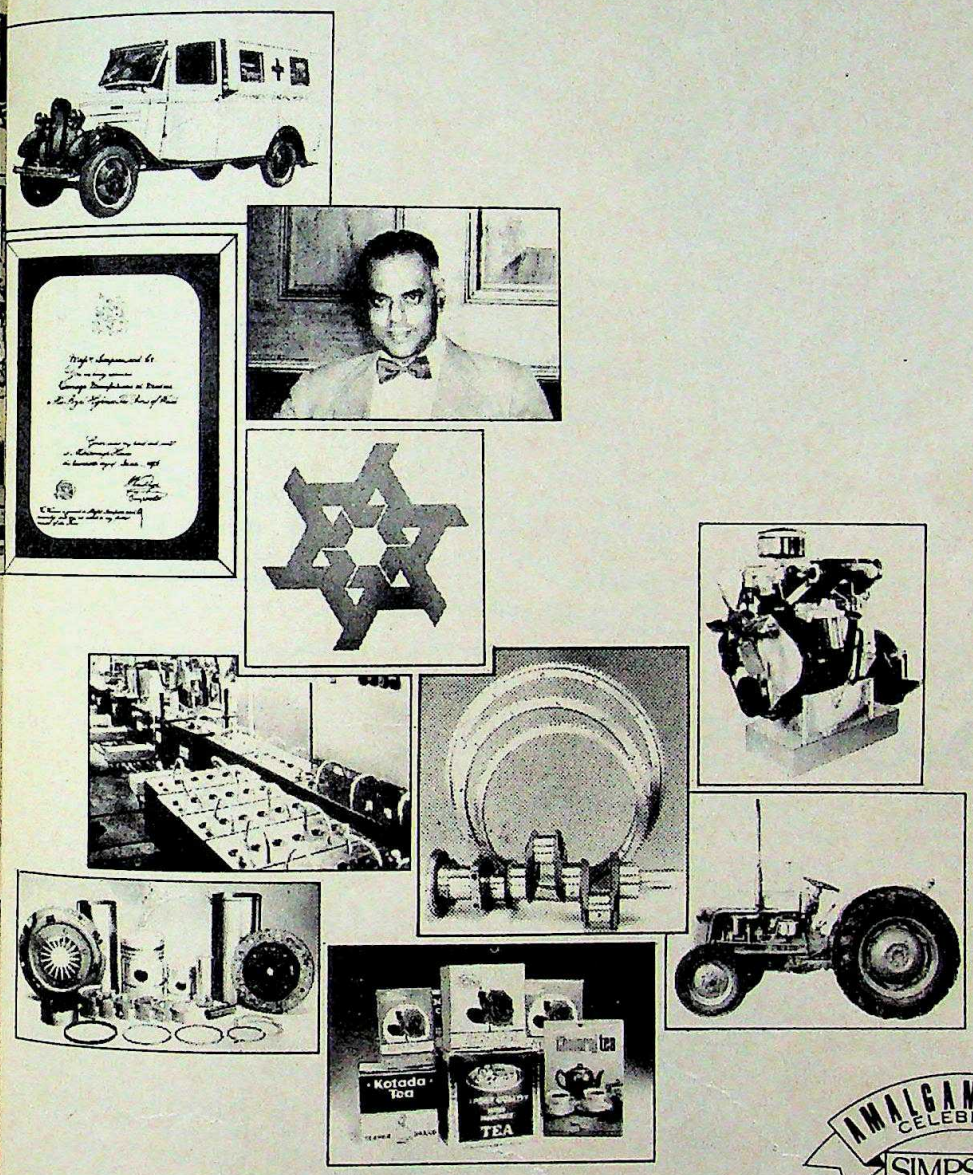
Simpson & Co. Ltd
Madras

AN AMALGAMATIONS GROUP MEMBER

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

50 years
genius, joy and achievement



AMALGAMATIONS CELEBRATES
SIMPSONS
150
YEARS
1840-1990

The spirit of enduring enterprise

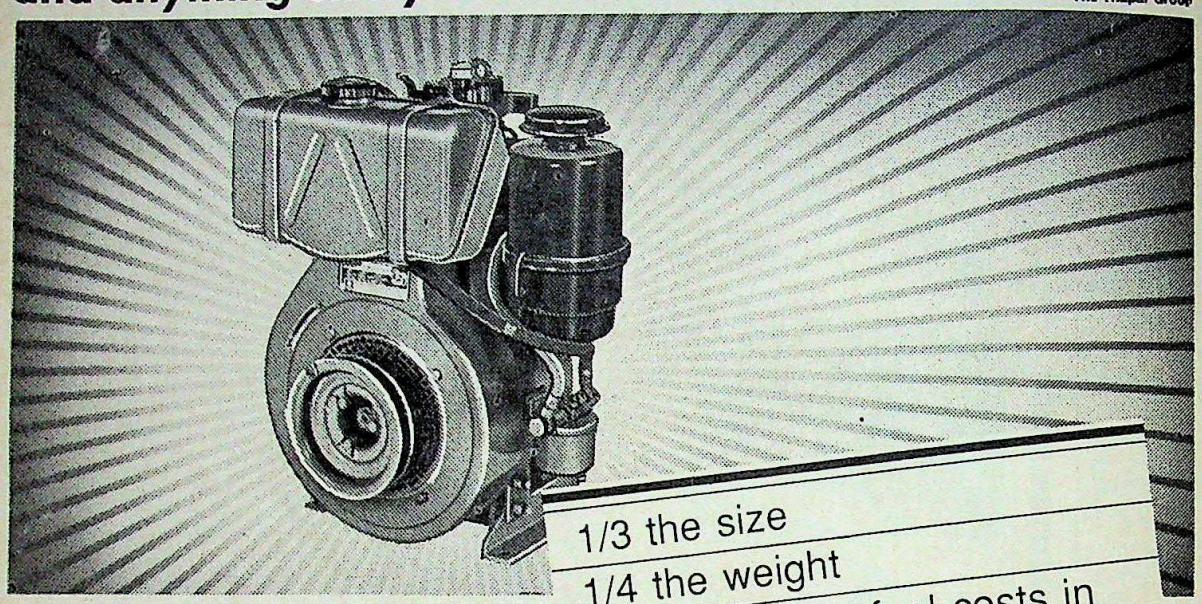
Rediffusion/AMG/90/186 R

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Over 100 uses we know of and anything else you can think of...

The Thapar Group



1/3 the size

1/4 the weight

80% saving on fuel costs in comparison to petrol engines

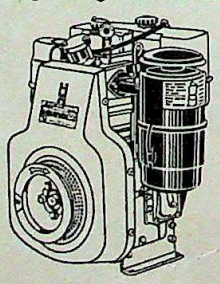
GREAVES DIESEL ENGINES

The Greaves Diesel Engine is the same Greaves Lombardini Engine you know so well. All we have changed is the name. Everything else about the engine is the same.

The Greaves Lightweight Diesel Engines have over a hundred applications and are used today by Railways, Defence, Industrial Units, the agricultural sector, small marine fishing craft and on construction sites.

It is one fourth the weight and one third the size of conventional diesel engines and is available in a range of 4 to 11 HP.

It consumes only half as much fuel as conventional petrol engines. No wonder, Greaves Lightweight Diesel Engines are exported to many countries i.e. USSR, Australia, Philippines and Kenya.



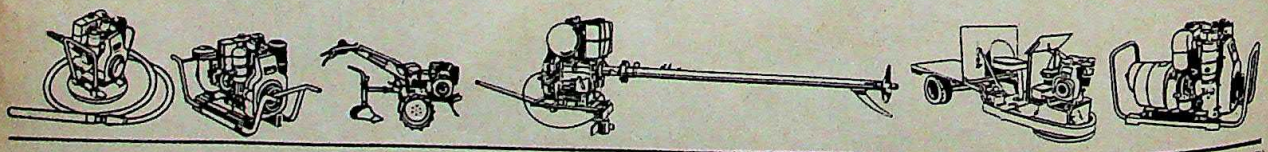
And, of course the superior Greaves quality is backed by the efficient Greaves after-sales service at 21 branches and a dealer network spread all over India.

For more information contact

SOLD & SERVICED BY GREAVES

Greaves Cotton & Co. Ltd.
Light Engine Division
1, Dr. V.B. Gandhi Marg
Bombay 400 023
• Delhi • Calcutta • Madras

Greaves Engines. The heavy duty lightweights.



Chaitra-B GC 389 A (R)

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

THE MARKETS

Still Buoyant

The boom goes on

THOUGH there was not much trading in the country's capital markets last fortnight on account of a number of holidays, investor sentiment remained buoyant. After a brief subdued phase, the 30-share sensitive index of the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) hit another peak, crossing the 1,600-mark on October 9, before falling back to 1,559.43.

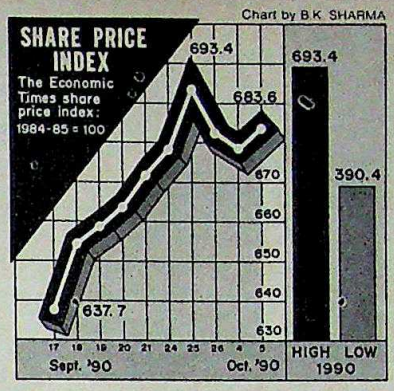
Significantly, for the first time since April when share indices started their bullish climb, the Indian stock-markets did appear to pay some heed to external political and economic developments. An increasingly uncertain political climate, a steadily deteriorating balance of payments on account of the Gulf crisis and India's credit rating being pegged down by international agencies like Moody's—all contributed in some measure to the cooling of red-hot passions in the markets.

Meanwhile, the Indian Bank apparently wants to set a record of sorts by launching five investment schemes within the span of a single year. The bank's fourth scheme, Ind Jyoti, was kicked off recently and if official guidelines for equity-linked savings scheme are announced before the year is through, it will have its fifth. The Life Insurance Corporation has also announced the second Dhanavarsha scheme with four investment options, which include options for an investor to receive a monthly income. But the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is acting tough and is not kindly inclined towards new monthly income schemes of mutual funds. Such schemes, the RBI believes, contribute to the overheated state of the markets and also place pressure on money supply, both of which are to be avoided.

On a more cheerful note, for the first time, US-based NRIs will now be able to invest directly in Indian stock-markets. So far they were not allowed to because of strict American laws governing trading in foreign securities. However, the State Bank of India has now received approvals from the New York State Banking Department and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation to make offerings in that country. Thus, US investors can open a non-resident portfolio investment account at the State Bank's NRI branch in Bombay. With NRI money from the Gulf now reduced to a mere trickle, the opening up of the US markets, albeit in a limited fashion, is certainly a welcome development.

Several pivotals like Tata Steel, Reliance and Orkay registered substantial gains. There was one bit of bad news though. Merrill Lynch, the US-based investment bank, said that equity shares in India are over-valued and that the BSE sensitive index is likely to fall below 1,000 after Diwali. Observers wonder whether that news will dampen the boom, or whether the market will simply ignore it.

Chart by B.K. SHARMA



ACTIVE STOCKS

	1990 HIGH	1990 LOW	1990 CLOSE 5.10.90	Change in Fortnight
Ashok Leyland	126.50	69.50	121.00	6.50 +
Associated Cement	2415.00	325.00	1995.00	5.00 –
Asian Paints	305.00	207.50	267.50	nil
Atlas Copco	68.00	32.50	50.00	1.00 –
Bajaj Auto	770.00	355.00	720.00	nil
Baroda Rayon	1925.00	617.50	1525.00	100.00 –
Bata India	104.00	62.50	100.00	10.00 +
Ballarpur	325.00	120.00	285.00	20.00 –
Birla Jute	188.00	50.50	165.00	13.00 –
Blow Plast	140.00	34.50	140.00	15.00 +
Bombay Dyeing	445.00	173.00	442.50	32.50 +
Britannia Ind.	167.00	97.00	160.00	2.00 +
Brooke Bond	175.00	91.00	160.00	6.00 –
Cadbury India	192.50	133.75	176.25	nil
Century Textiles	4625.00	2420.00	4525.00	100.00 +
Colgate Palmolive	352.50	176.25	336.25	1.25 –
Cyanamid	150.00	87.50	135.00	nil
DCM	126.00	45.50	105.00	3.00 –
Dunlop	93.00	51.75	79.00	5.00 –
E.I. Hotels	65.25	50.00	60.00	nil
Escorts	157.50	77.75	153.00	nil
Finolex Cables	410.00	200.00	290.00	10.00 –
Garware Nylon	70.00	48.00	56.00	nil
G.E. Shipping	54.75	38.00	41.50	0.25 +
G.S.F.C.	275.00	155.00	250.00	10.00 –
Grasim Ind.	277.50	106.00	245.00	17.50 –
Hind. Aluminium	417.50	205.00	355.00	12.50 +
Hind. Ciba	1900.00	960.00	1575.00	50.00 –
Hindustan Lever	172.50	101.00	157.50	10.00 –
Hindustan Motors	54.50	19.80	50.75	3.25 +
Hoechst	3400.00	1295.00	3150.00	25.00 –
ICI India Ltd.	72.00	35.25	66.00	4.00 –
Indian Organic	91.25	46.50	74.00	7.25 –
Indian Rayon	175.00	84.00	150.00	12.50 –
Indrol	315.00	161.25	272.50	10.00 –
Ingersoll-Rand	305.00	190.00	300.00	nil
ITC	170.00	48.75	167.00	13.00 +
J.K. Synthetics	90.00	50.00	65.00	3.00 –
Kinetic Engineering	255.00	130.00	225.00	10.00* –
Kirloskar Cummins	125.00	65.00	107.50	3.75 –
KSB Pumps	260.00	175.00	255.00	10.00 +
Larsen & Toubro	180.00	57.00	152.50	12.50 –
Lipton	112.00	73.00	95.00	2.50 +
LML Ltd.	68.75	15.00	68.75	13.75 +
Madura Coats	226.00	100.50	225.00	28.00 +
M&M	107.50	67.50	102.50	7.50 +
Milk Food	280.00	115.00	185.00	nil
Motor Industries	1400.00	780.00	1100.00	75.00 –
Mukand Ltd.	235.00	127.00	227.50	22.50 +
National Organic	1900.00	1070.00	1600.00	100.00 –
Nestle India	162.50	101.75	156.00	2.75 –
Nirlon	42.50	13.00	33.00	7.00 –
Orkay Silk Mills	48.00	14.50	47.00	12.50 +
Peico Electronics	75.00	24.00	73.50	4.00 +
Pfizer	113.75	72.50	75.00	nil
Premier Auto	83.00	53.50	70.00	5.00 +
Raymond	120.00	70.00	120.00	11.25 +
Reckitt & Colman	265.00	178.00	260.00	8.00 +
Reliance Industries	216.00	50.00	198.50	16.75 +
Siemens India	156.25	96.00	137.50	2.50 –
Shaw Wallace	122.00	65.00	99.00	7.00 –
Shriram Fibres	74.00	43.00	59.00	1.00 –
SKF Bearings	2500.00	1240.00	2425.00	75.00 +
SPIC	81.00	50.75	72.00	7.00 +
Tata Steel	226.50	103.25	226.50	61.50 +
Telco	255.00	110.00	235.00	7.50 +
Vam Organic	205.00	115.00	185.00	2.50 +
Videocon Int.	560.00	105.00	510.00	30.00* +
Voltas	145.00	63.00	137.50	nil
Wimco	52.50	15.75	36.00	1.00 –

*Ex-dividend

WORLD VALUE OF RUPEE

COUNTRY	CURRENCY	UNIT	TT Selling Rates Rs	TT Buying Rates Rs
Australia	Dollar	1	15.1601	14.9991
Austria	Shilling	100	166.8473	166.0763
Bahrain	Dinar	1	48.5290	47.4372
Bangladesh	Taka	100	51.9788	51.1950
Canada	Dollar	1	15.7937	15.6378
Denmark	Kroner	1	3.1015	3.0707
Egypt	Pound	1	6.8198	6.7050
France	Franc	1	3.5842	3.4965
Hong Kong	Dollar	1	2.3385	2.3161
Indonesia	Rupiah	100	0.9701	0.9558
Iran	Rial	100	25.5368	25.2559
Italy	Lira	100	1.5802	1.5626
Japan	Yen	100	13.7931	13.4590
Kenya	Shilling	1	0.7836	0.7729
Malaysia	Dollar	1	6.7300	6.6640
Mauritius	Rupee	1	1.2554	1.2393
Nepal	Rupee	1	0.6332	0.6250
Netherlands	Guilder	1	10.5585	10.4528
Pakistan	Rupee	1	0.8398	0.8300
Singapore	Dollar	1	10.3809	10.2771
Spain	Peseta	1	0.1851	0.1828
Sri Lanka	Rupee	1	0.4558	0.4504
Sweden	Kroner	1	3.1966	3.1648
Switzerland	Franc	1	14.1723	14.0277
Tanzania	Shilling	1	0.0955	0.0922
Thailand	Baht	100	71.9865	70.1932
UK	Pound	1	34.6380	34.3879
USA	Dollar	1	18.1406	17.9695
UAE	Dirham	1	4.9573	4.9064
USSR	Rouble	1	29.2354	28.9363
Germany	Deutschmark	1	12.0048	11.7096

These rates were supplied by The Bank of Tokyo Limited, New Delhi and quoted between the banks on 6.10.90.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

GSFC CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

Shri H.R. Patankar

The following is the text of Statement made by Shri H.R. Patankar, Chairman, Gujarat State Fertilizers Company Limited at the Twenty-Eighth Annual General Meeting of the Company held on the 21st September 1990 at the Registered Office of the Company.

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

Ladies & Gentlemen,

I welcome you at this 28th Annual General Meeting of your Company. The Annual Accounts and Directors' Report for the year 1989-90 are already with you for sometime and with your permission I take them as read.

ECONOMIC SCENARIO

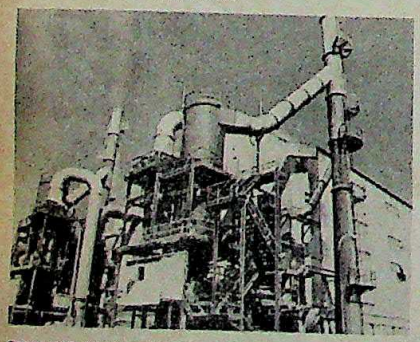
Political and economic environment play an important role in the performance of any industrial unit, and this environment has been favourable. The budget for the fiscal year 1990-91 envisages welcome features such as reduction in corporate tax to 40%, abolition of the levy of tax on book profits, rationalization of tax structure in general, further liberalization of the industrial licensing and controls announced through the new industrial policy which immensely reflects pragmatism, realism, innovativeness and boldness of leadership.

We hope that the process of liberalization initiated by the Government will enable the industrial sector to register a higher growth rate than envisaged in the Eighth Five Year Plan and will enable the country to emerge as a great industrial power in the new century.

Monsoon has also been kind and the excellent rains will give a boost to agricultural production and consequently to the sale of fertilizers. True, heavy rains in various parts of Gujarat have caused widespread damage and adversely affected some areas, but the rains have certainly removed the anxiety about the shortage of drinking water in the State.

INTERNATIONAL BACKDROP

The revolutionary changes in the economic situation in Eastern Europe will have impact in the other parts of the world including India. I can assure you that your Company Board and Management are fully aware of the changing scenario and will take necessary measures to adjust itself to the new climate.



SCALING NEW HEIGHTS IN PRODUCTION

You will be glad to know that your Company has continued its excellent track record in production performance during the year 1989-90. Your Company's fertilizer production at the Vadodara complex has been of the order of 9.19 lakh tonnes of fertilizers against 8.45 lakh tonnes of the previous year. This would work out to as high a capacity utilization as 131% against 119% of the previous year. As you know your Company's Sikka Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP) Plant is based on imported Ammonia and Phosphoric Acid, which are canalized through Government agencies. Unfortunately, there was difficulty in import of these vital raw materials and, therefore, the Plant had to remain closed for about six and half months and consequently this Unit incurred heavy loss during the year under report. As a result of non-availability of Ammonia and Phosphoric Acid, the Sikka DAP Plant could not operate on more than 55% of capacity utilization. If these raw materials were available on a regular basis, your Company's performance would have been still better.

You will be happy to know that your Company's Polymer Unit has improved its performance considerably and started contributing to the overall profitability. This is indeed a good augury for the future of this Unit.

A NEW BENCHMARK IN TURNOVER

You will be happy to know that your Company has added a new feather to its corporate performance by achieving the highest ever record turnover of Rs. 682 crores for the year ended 31st March, 1990 against the annualized turnover of Rs. 541 crores for the previous year 1988-89 and has registered an increase of around 26%. Your Company's total fertilizer sales for the year under review were around 12 lakh tonnes, an all time high against 10.15 lakh tonnes of the previous year. Similarly, the total sales of industrial products were over 2.54 lakh tonnes as against previous year's 1.12 lakh tonnes.

Your Company's performance during the six months of the present year has been very satisfactory and looking to the operating efficiency of various plants, it is hoped that your Company will be able to surpass the last year's turnover and be able to achieve the target of the total turnover of Rs. 750 crores.

RETENTION PRICE

Last year, I had told you about significant changes in the norms of depreciation and capacity utilization in fixing the retention prices for fertilizer for the 5th pricing period which began from 1.4.1988. As you know, your Company's Sikka Plant has been adversely affected under the revised formula of retention price mainly on account of lower depreciation charge and increase in operating hours per annum. However, your Company alongwith other manufacturers had represented against the changes in the norms of the retention prices and you will be glad to know that the Government of India has since relaxed the depreciation norms from 20 years to 15 years for new plants commissioned after 1982. So far as the Sikka Plant is concerned, no relaxation has so far been given in the norms of capacity utilization applicable to it. However, your Company has been pursuing the matter to get relaxation in this respect too.

BONUS SHARES

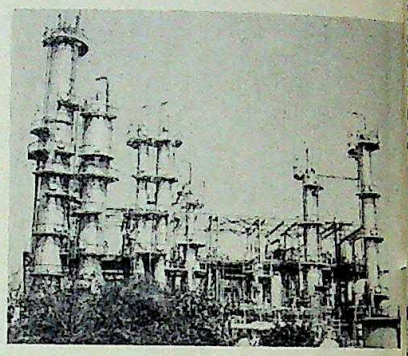
As you know, your Company has been doing very well from year to year and sharing its profits with the shareholders through sustained dividend and allotment of bonus shares from time to time. Last year also your Company has maintained the dividend at 30% which is the highest in the fertilizer industry. In addition, subject to your approval, your Company has decided to allot bonus shares to the shareholders in the proportion of 3 bonus equity shares for every 10 existing equity shares held by them. Your Company is wedded to the policy of sound financial management through plough back and internal generation of funds and it is due to the judicious implementation of this policy over a period that your Company has been able to make steady and sound progress. In the context of this philosophy, you will appreciate and welcome your Company's decision to declare bonus shares for the fifth time since its inception.

MERGER OF GUJARAT NYLONS LTD.

You are aware that your Company intends to merge Gujarat Nylons Ltd. (GNL) with it and the matter is being pursued vigorously. The Gujarat High Court has issued orders for convening of the meetings of GNL and GSFC shareholders on 7th October, 1990 at Kharach and Fertilizernagar respectively. In the proposed scheme of amalgamation, the exchange ratio of share will be issue of One fully paid equity share of Rs. 10/- each of GSFC to the shareholders of GNL holding Eight fully paid equity shares of Rs. 10/- each in GNL. The merger is proposed to be made effective from 1.4.1990 and accordingly, the shareholders of GNL, who receive GSFC shares in exchange of GNL shares would be eligible for all benefits of GSFC in respect of dividend for the year 1990-91 as also bonus shares. The scheme of amalgamation is mutually beneficial to the shareholders of GNL and GSFC. At present, though GNL is a subsidiary of your Company, difficulties have been experienced in making available to GNL their full requirement of Caprolactam from time to time. If sufficient quantity of Caprolactam is not available to GNL, its production will suffer. On the other hand, GSFC is interested not only in maximizing its sale of Caprolactam but also looking for further expansion particularly in the Petrochemical field. The GNL location for such expansion is ideal in the context of various petrochemical plants coming up in South Gujarat. Also, the scheme is beneficial to your Company from the point of view of taxation and other angles. The financial institutions have also expressed their desire in favour of the merger. It is, therefore, felt that the merger of GNL with GSFC would be rewarding in the ultimate analysis and pave the way for further industrial growth in the State.

GSFC INVESTMENT AND LEASING COMPANY

Your Company has been expanding and diversifying in different fields for the last many years. But you will agree that your Company has a social obligation towards industrial development from a wider angle. Your Company is committed to promote new entrepreneurships and setting up small industrial ventures based on the GSFC products. In order to take care of the investments in new schemes and small projects, your Company has promoted and incorporated a new Company in the name of 'GSFC Investment and Leasing Company Limited' (GILC). This Company will be a wholly owned subsidiary of your Company and for that purpose it is proposed to invest upto Rs. 1 crore in the equity share capital of the new Company subject to appropriate approvals. Your Company will provide the necessary guidance, expertise, technical help, managerial assistance and also equity participation to existing and prospective entrepreneurs who intend to set up small projects based on the raw materials of GSFC and related chemicals. It is hoped that the GILC will give a new dimension and direction to development of small and ancillary units in the State.

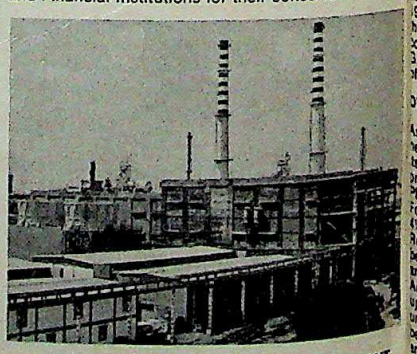


EXPANSION AND DIVERSIFICATION PROGRAMME

As you are aware, your Company had taken up a Rs. 1200-crore expansion and diversification programme. Since last year the position has been reviewed and your Company has considered it desirable to add some new projects in this programme. As a result of the addition of new projects, the proposed investment in this programme is now estimated to be around Rs. 1800 crores. In the earlier stage, your Company has implemented the Coastal DAP Plant at Sikka, the Nylon Yarn Plant and the Co-generation of Steam and Power Plant. The first phase of Caprolactam expansion is under implementation and preliminary work for Melamine expansion has started. Subsequently, new projects such as Sulphuric Acid expansion, Phosphoric Acid expansion at Sikka and Phase-II expansion of Caprolactam are also added in the corporate growth plan.

PROGRESS ON CAPROLACTAM EXPANSION-I

Your Company is holding a Letter of Intent for Caprolactam Plant of 1 lakh MTPA. This Plant is envisaged to be set up in two phases of 50,000 MTPA each. As I told you, work on 50,000 MTPA Caprolactam Plant is progressing satisfactorily. While the first expansion of 50,000 MTPA Caprolactam Plant is in progress, your Company has already initiated action for setting up the second phase of expansion of 50,000 MTPA and a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with the concerned foreign Companies. This expansion will be economical. We have approached Government of India for necessary permission for that and also International Finance Corporation, Washington and Financial Institutions for their concurrence.



CO-GENERATION OF STEAM AND POWER PLANT

You will be glad to know that your Company has successfully commissioned the second phase of Co-generation of Steam and Power scheme costing around Rs. 39 crores. The first phase of 15 MW power generation was commissioned in early 1989 and the second phase of 25 MW was completed in the early part of this year. The total cost in both the phases has been around Rs. 71 crores. The co-generation of Steam and Power concept has been a part of your Company's energy saving

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

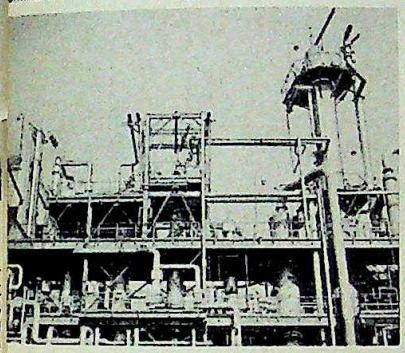
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

GSFC—Expanding New Horizons

rogramme and it would contribute to your Company's elf-reliance in the power generation. As a result of this roject, your Company's dependence on the GEB would e substantially reduced and power to the extent of 35 W could be released to other needy industrial units in e State. The energy bill which was Rs. 7 crores per onth has now come down to about Rs. 5 crores.

EW SULPHURIC ACID PLANT

ou are aware that your Company had earlier set up hree Sulphuric Acid Plants; one in 1967, second in 1974 nd the third in 1981 with a view to meeting the ncreasing requirement of Sulphuric Acid for captive onsumption as well as industrial consumption. To meet e rising demand of Sulphuric Acid and also to augment e supply for captive consumption in view of the new rojects coming up, your Company has decided to set up new Sulphuric Acid Plant with a capacity of 1000 MTPD t an estimated cost of Rs. 55 crores. The formalities of a urn-key contract have been completed and the work will ommence soon.



ELAMINE PLANT

our Company has at present a Melamine Plant which is e first of its kind in the country. Over a period the emand for Melamine in the country has gone up onsiderably and the entire capacity of 5,000 MTs of this lant is not sufficient to meet the demand in the country. overnment of India has permitted your Company to mport 1500 MTs of Melamine and 432 MTs have been mported and for balance quantity arrangements are eing made to import as early as possible. Your Company has, therefore, decided to take up the xpansion of Melamine capacity from 5,000 MTPA to 5,000 MTPA.

UJARAT INDUSTRIES POWER COMPANY LTD.

s known to you, your Company had taken a lead in romoting the Gujarat Industries Power Company Ltd. GIPCL) with other participants—GACL, Petrofils, IPCL nd GEB. The total estimated cost of this project is stimated to be Rs. 200 crores and it will generate 135 W of power. In commensurate with the investment of our Company in this project, it will get about 40 MW ower which would be a great boost to your Company in chieving self-sufficiency. This project has made onsiderable progress on all fronts. It is expected that e first gas turbine may be commissioned in October 990 and the remaining turbines in a phased manner hereafter. Your Company has always initiated new oncepts in agriculture and industrialization and the IPCL, a novel joint sector power enterprise, is the first f its kind in the country.

THER PROJECTS

s mentioned earlier, your Company has added some ew projects of vital importance and diverse interest to s existing and on-going expansion and diversification rogramme. Your Company has decided to put up a new hosphoric Acid Plant with a capacity of 2.5 lakhs MTPA. or production of 1 ton of Phosphoric Acid, we require 4½ tons of imported raw materials—about 3½ tons of ock Phosphate and 1 ton of Sulphur. It is, therefore, to e considered whether we import these raw materials nd make Phosphoric Acid in India or import Phosphoric cid itself. Therefore whether the project should be put p at Sikka in Saurashtra or in some foreign country is o be taken in consultation with the Government of Gujarat nd Government of India as well as Financial nstitutions. Your Company's Coastal DAP Plant at Sikka ould not operate to its full capacity because of erratic supply of imported Phosphoric Acid. Your Company's decision to put up a Phosphoric Acid Plant would, therefore, enable the Company to achieve self-sufficiency in this vital raw material. The estimated cost for this project is around Rs. 300 crores.

At present, your Company has three Ammonia Plants with a total capacity of 1050 MTPD. In view of the massive expansion programme, more Ammonia will be required for the manufacture of different products. Moreover, these Plants which were set up many years ago need to be replaced. Your Company has, therefore, decided to set up a 1350 MTPD capacity Ammonia Plant at Fertilizernagar at an estimated cost of around Rs. 400 crores.

R & D ACTIVITIES

As you are aware, your Company places emphasis on research and development and their applications. In the broad based and modern facilities at GSFC Research Centre, our scientists are carrying out intensive research in agro and industrial chemicals, polymers, waste utilization process, biotechnology, corrosion and materials. During the year, arrangement for technology transfer of a newly developed mineral reinforced nylon and other polymers from indigenous minerals was completed. Progress was made on a new acrylic thickner development and trials as a substitute for kerosene in textile industry. This year our scientists have successfully commissioned a pilot plant for Xylitol from sugarcane bagasse. This product is a high value substitute for sugar and now a process package is under preparation. Similarly, intensive work on process development for bio-insecticides which are very promising under Indian conditions, was carried out with great vigour and field testing has been taken up. Work on high value polymeric membranes and setting up of a demonstration plant to get fresh water from sea water in Sikka has made good progress. Work is also in progress for establishing a unique multi-purpose fertilizer R&D facility for carrying out new developments and formulations.

It is planned to increase our R&D activities and establish centralized facilities to keep pace with expanding operations of the Company.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL AND SAFETY

Both environmental control and industrial safety are important aspects of productivity and your Company has given top priority to these two activities. Your Company has implemented a variety of schemes to minimize liquid and aerial pollution and is maintaining the parameters to ensure compliance with statutory requirements. The fact that your Company has so far spent over Rs. 12 crores on different environmental control projects testifies to its anxiety for maintaining the ecological balance.

Your Company is also considering to set up a Foundation for Environmental Research, Educational Information and Eco-regeneration.

It has an enviable record of safety performance and it has received several Safety Awards at National and International levels.

FARM SERVICES & COMMUNITY RELATIONS

As part of its social obligations, your Company, since its inception, has remained committed to prosperity of the farmers, welfare of the rural community and promotion of sports. Apart from having a well-knit network of Farm Information Centres, Area Offices and Regional Offices all over the country, your Company provides an extensive package of farm and promotional services to farmers at their doorstep in terms of education and development in scientific agriculture and modernization of farm practices. Besides rendering the basic services of soil and water testing and management of various agro inputs, special projects are implemented with a view to achieving well-defined goals specific to different areas, status of the farmers and the agro-climatic conditions of farming. The main thrust has been to implement innovative methods and modern techniques, transfer of agro technology from lab to land, ensure higher productivity of crops through development of culture like bio-fertilizers and its commercialization by way of widespread experiments and applications. Attention is also given to building up the future generation of farm youths by imparting training under a well-geared agro training programme and the further dissemination of such training through establishment of a network of Farm Youth Clubs in the villages. Also, utilization of conventional source of energy is encouraged through promotion and construction of Gobar Gas Plants in the rural areas.

Community relations is the basis of goodwill prevailing between the surrounding villages and your Company which has remained in forefront in helping the public causes initiated in the villages. Your Company has helped financially in building roads, constructing of school rooms, buying medical equipment for primary health centres, giving jobs to youths of the land losers and creating such other facilities as required in the villages. Your Company remains in constant touch with the villagers and tries to ameliorate their hardships to the extent possible. It also provides jobs on daily wages to the poorer people from the rural areas through contract agencies. Even preference is given to villagers by entrusting small contracts for carrying out certain jobs. As a result, your Company has been able to establish an excellent rapport with the rural folks of the neighbouring villages and to create in them a sense of belonging for your Company.

SPORTS

Although promotion of sports has assumed great importance in industry only lately, your Company has been a pioneer in this field as it has been making efforts to promote sports right from the beginning by employing sportsmen and encouraging games through sponsorships. Some of the sportsmen of your Company have attained national and international fame through excellence. Your Company has developed a proper infrastructure for promotion of games among its employees and it provides enough encouragement and motivation to budding sportsmen for achieving a good standard at the State and national level.

A TRACK RECORD OF EXCELLENCE

In recognition of its excellence in various fields, your Company has achieved distinctions at the national and international levels during the year. It has won the following awards during the year under report :-

(1) FAI Productivity Award for the 7th year in succession.
(2) National Award in Industrial Relations.
(3) American Safety Award for the 4th year in succession.
(4) National Safety Award of the Government of India.
(5) Second Productivity Award in Petrochemical Industry.
(6) Gujarat Governor's Trophy in Horticulture for the 5th year in succession.

CORPORATE OBJECTIVES

Your Company's corporate objective is to increase the share of industrial products to around 50% of the total turnover with the commissioning of the expansion and diversification projects. This product mix of petrochemicals and fertilizers will ensure your Company's investors and shareholders good returns and contribute meaningfully to the balanced growth of the national economy.

VOTE OF THANKS

I wish to express my sense of gratitude to the Government of India, Government of Gujarat, Indian Financial Institutions, International Finance Corporation, Washington, Banks and other agencies who have supported the Company in various projects and endeavours. I am also grateful to my colleagues on the Board for their guidance and contribution. I cannot forget to express my sincere thanks to members of the staff and officers of your Company for their hard work, excellent team spirit and deep sense of dedication. I also wish to thank members of the shareholders family who have always shown immense faith in the working of the Company. I also wish to thank our dealers and customers and suppliers whose co-operation, patronage and sincerity have contributed immensely to your Company's brilliant performance.

JAI HIND

Note : This does not purport to be a record of proceedings of the Twenty-Eighth Annual General Meeting of the Company.

Gujarat State Fertilizers Company Ltd.
P.O. Fertilizernagar - 391 750 Dist. Vadodara

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

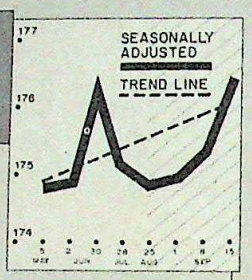
Trade figures look promising—exports rose while imports dropped. This should boost our balance of trade situation. The steady depreciation of the rupee should maintain this positive trend. The monetary authority continued to reign in money supply and credit also stagnated. This tight monetary policy is affecting only wholesale prices, while inflation continues to beset consumer prices. Obviously, the Government needs to re-evaluate its anti-inflationary measures.

All data are seasonally adjusted. Current trends are computed on the basis of six months' (weekly data) or one-and-a-half years' (monthly data) figures.

Wholesale Price Index

1981-82 = 100

Current Trend
1.8% p.a.

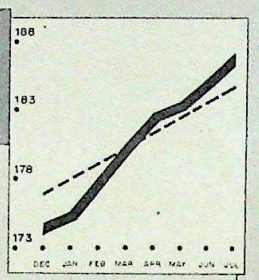


Wholesale prices continue to exhibit stability—measures to control inflation are certainly taking effect here.

Consumer Price Index

1982 = 100

Current Trend
7.4% p.a.

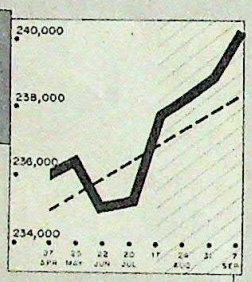


Consumer prices show no signs of stabilising—this is disturbing, even though the rise is slow.

Money Supply

Rs Crore

Current Trend
3.9% p.a.

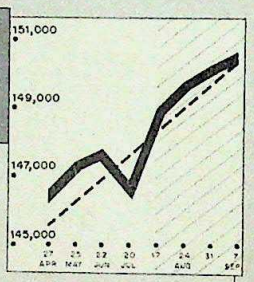


Money supply expanded marginally—though the current trend rate of growth is way below what is considered optimal.

Commercial Bank Credit

Rs Crore

Current Trend
8.9% p.a.

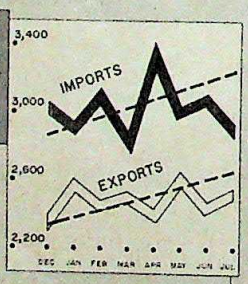


Commercial Bank credit grew very slightly, but it was still not enough to give industry an appreciable boost.

Foreign Trade

Rs Crore

Current Trend
23% p.a. EXPORTS
21.9% p.a. IMPORTS

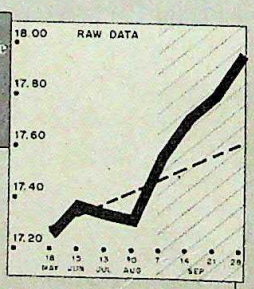


The trend of rising exports and falling imports paints an extremely rosy picture for the country's trade balance.

Foreign Exchange Rate

Rs per US $

Current Trend
5.3% p.a.

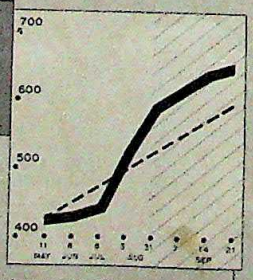


The rupeee devaluation continues at a slower albeit steady pace—exports, however are predicted to benefit.

Share Price Index

1984-85 = 100

Current Trend
90.4% p.a.

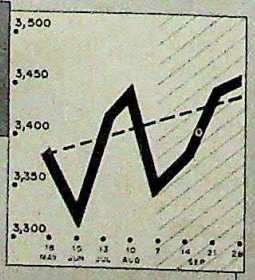


Share prices continue to rise. However, there is some levelling off—prices increased by 14% in August as compared to 6% in September.

Closing Gold Prices

Rs per 10 gm

Current Trend
4.7% p.a.



Gold prices continue to rise steadily however the increase registered was not quite as sharp as expected.

WHOLESALE PRICES

Growth of items in the 1st fortnight of September 1990

	% Growth
Internal Combustion Engines	15.60
Oranges	14.71
Bananas	9.05
Turmeric	8.60
Coffee	7.78
Fish	7.75
Tapioca	5.78
Copra	5.51
Cars	5.19
Woollen Cloth& Woollen Khadi	4.32
Moong	3.14
Maize	3.07
Vanaspati	2.76
Bajra	2.74
Tea	2.47
Coir Yarn	2.40
Copper & Alloys	2.24
Milk	2.06
Coir Fibre	2.03
Pete Crude & Natural Gas	1.84
Ragi	1.71
Hides Raw	1.70
Maida	1.64
Linseed Oil	1.59
Logs Timber Bamboo	1.55
Urad	1.51
Khandsari	1.50
Atta	1.36
Meat	1.34
Cement	1.32
Coal	1.24
Biscuits	1.20
Mining Machinery	1.17
Cotton Seeds	1.13
Cashew-nut	1.04
Groundnut Oilcake	1.03
Bolts & Nuts	0.98
Pig Iron	0.95
Board	0.89
Aluminium	0.88
Machine Tools	0.87
Rails	0.84
Plywood	0.79
Bars & Rods	0.78
Nitrogenous Fertilisers	0.73
Dairy Products	0.72
Semis Billets	0.68

Of the 134 series considered, 90 of them with a total weight of 40.874 had a non-negative rate of growth and 44 of them with a total weight of 34.978 had a negative rate of growth.

SELECTED INDICATORS

	1990	1989
Petroleum Crude Thousand Tonnes, August	2670	2820
Petroleum Refinery Products Thousand Tonnes, August	4101	4138
Letter of Intents Numbers, August	762	809
Industrial Licences Issued Numbers, August	242	296
Electricity Generated Million kWh, August	21573	20058

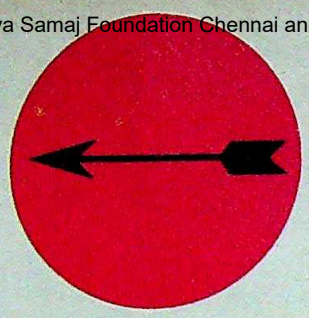
Compiled by THE POLICY GROUP

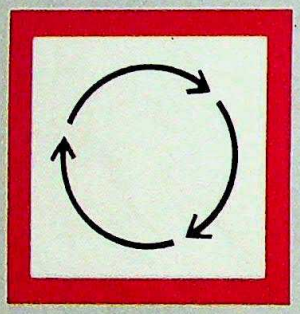
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

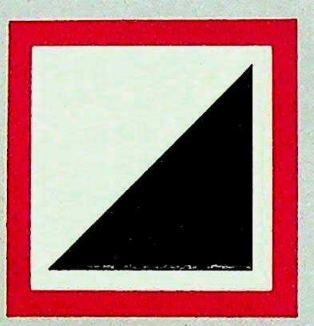
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

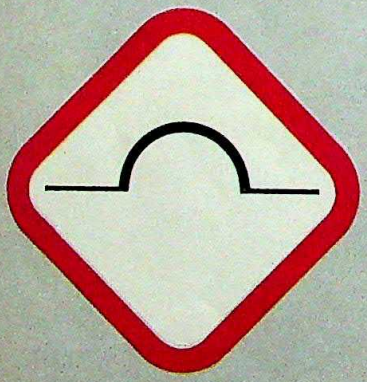
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri









DISCOVER THE ONLY SIGN ON THE ROAD

MAXIMUM TRUST: That's why 2 out of every 3 cars, commercial vehicles or tractors roll out only with Exide as their original equipment. Putting it way ahead of all other batteries.

FS Advertising/CIL/539

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

RUSTED BY ALL VEHICLE MANUFACTURERS

ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY: Which has made Exide the No. 1 battery in the country. A perfect example of proven reliability working for you. So choose Exide. The only name trusted by all vehicle manufacturers. Always.

Exide

BUY EXIDE. BUY PEACE OF MIND.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

UNITED KINGDOM

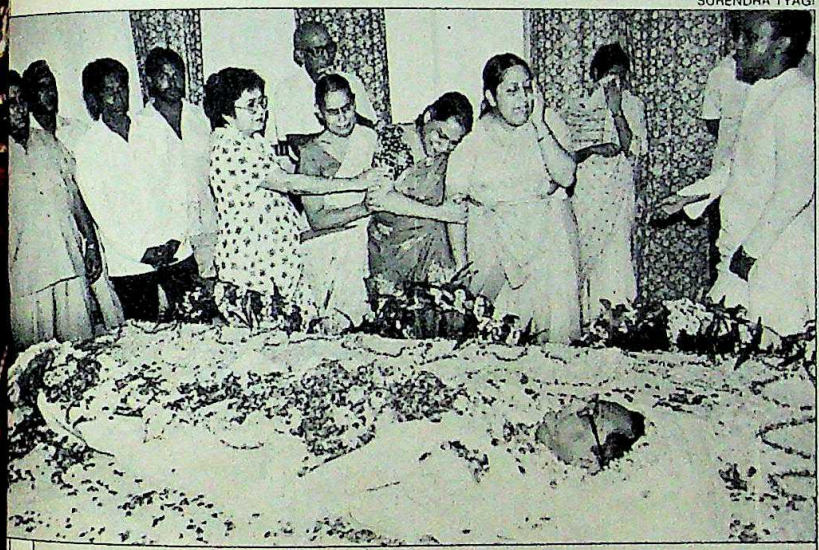
Diplomatic Dispute

High Commission dragged into unseemly row

CONTROVERSY always seems to dog him. But for journalist-turned-diplomat Kuldip Nayar the tables could not have been more effectively turned. This time he is not the one firing the charges. Instead, the Indian high commissioner in London is at the receiving end. He and the high commission have been charged with negligence leading to Supreme Court chief justice Sabyasachi Mukharji's death on September 25 in London.

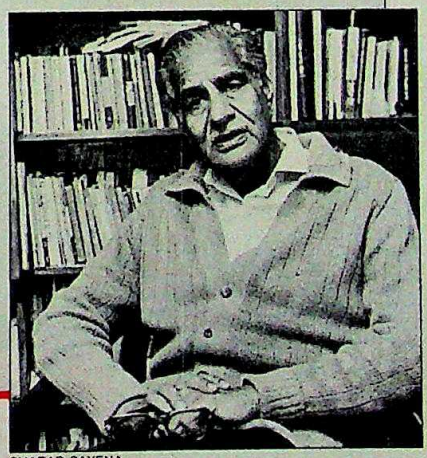
All hell broke loose a week after Mukharji died of a heart attack when his wife Ratna returned with the body and complained the high commission staff had neglected her husband. That sparked off an uproar in Parliament with Janata Dal leader Chandra Shekhar demanding Nayar's removal. Gujral refused: "I would not like to punish anyone without proof of guilt." But Congress(I) MPs led by P. Chidambaram insisted Mrs Mukharji's word was good enough and "there was no need for an inquiry". Chandra Shekhar and Chidambaram had been targets of Nayar's scathing pen in his original avatar as a hard-hitting columnist. But Gujral insisted Nayar would not be recalled till an inquiry was held.

SURENDRA TYAGI



Mukharji's body lying in state; (right) Nayar: bitter controversy

> "I welcome the inquiry because it will vindicate the high commission."
> KULDIP NAYAR



SHARAD SAXENA

The tragedy erupted when the head of the Indian judiciary collapsed frothing at the mouth at London's Heathrow Airport on September 20 on his arrival from a lecture tour of the US. Mukharji, already a heart patient and a diabetic, was immediately treated by Jayshree Dutta, a Heathrow doctor. Said she: "I was told he was a diabetic and that his insulin injection was not due until lunch. I gave him a sugar cube and he said he was feeling slightly better. I then offered a full blood test, but he decided to go to his friends and call a doctor there."

Apparently, what Mukharji had suffered on the plane was a heart attack. But Mukharji was taken on an hour's journey from Heathrow to the Golders Green home of his friend Mrs Anita Bose, a solicitor. Meanwhile, Dr Amar Singh Rayan, one of the medicos of the high commission, was told to come to Bose's home. However, before Rayan could get there, Mukharji collapsed again.

The hosts immediately called their family doctor, Emma Mukherjee, a veteran Indian general practitioner in Britain, who arrived within five minutes with a nurse. After giving him an insulin injection she called up emergency services and the chief justice was then taken to the nearest hospital—the Royal Free Hospital.

One question being asked in London is whether Mukharji could have been treated better at a private hospital. India House diplomats think not. As Dr Mukherjee explained: "The reason I did not send him to a private hospital was that we would have lost time. At times like this the nearest, best and quickest treatment is the priority."

However, Mukharji's friends insist the high commission is partly to blame. "They visited from time to time but Justice Mukharji got only what you get at a national health (government) hospital," said one. The Royal Free Hospital's general manager, Andrew Dillon, said he had received no complaint from Mukharji's relatives and so had not ordered an inquiry into his treatment.

Among the barrage of charges made by Mukharji's wife and his London friends is that the chief justice was kept waiting in a corridor of the hospital's emergency casualty ward for several hours after the initial check up. Apparently, doctors told Mukharji after giving him a routine check up that there was no private room available for him. The hospital refuses to comment saying it will only communicate with the relatives of the deceased.

It was 11.10 a.m. when the chief justice was admitted, half an hour after he had arrived at Golders Green. According to the hospital's discharge summary: "On examination he appeared well and was fully conscious. His blood pressure was 150/105. He

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

SWADESHI POLYTEX LIMITED

Regd. Office : New Kavi Nagar, Ghaziabad (U.P.)

Excerpts from The Speech by **SHRI V. SUNDARAM** Chairman, at the 20th Annual General Meeting of the Company

Shri V. Sundaram

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am happy to welcome you to the 20th Annual General Meeting of your Company.

PERIOD UNDER REVIEW

The audited accounts and the Directors' Report for the year ended 31st March, 1990 has been in your hands for some time now. I will take these as read.

During this period your Company achieved a turnover of Rs. 69.22 Cr. compared to Rs. 67.51 Cr. annualised for the previous period. Sales at 9049 MT were more or less the same as in the previous corresponding period. Profit before tax of Rs. 368 lacs can be considered as satisfactory in view of the very difficult market conditions.

Your company has continued to perform much better than the other manufacturers of PSF. Capacity utilisation was 63% compared to 33% for the Industry as a whole, in the domestic market.

As has been stated earlier your Company's relationship with NTC has been beneficial to both the companies. NTC provides a stable market outlet for SPL and NTC with the assistance of SPL has been able to upgrade its product as well as increase its consumption of PSF.

DIVIDEND

The Board of Directors of the Company, taking cognizance of a decline in profitability as also keeping in view the need for conservation of resources for the planned modernisation/ diversification projects, have decided to follow a prudent dividend policy and have thus declared a dividend of 17.5%.

MARKET

The demand continued to stagnate at around 86,000 – 90,000 MT per annum on account of the high prices that the PSF manufacturers were forced to charge in order to cover their input costs. Even at these high prices, most of the PSF manufacturers ended their year in the RED. Prices of raw materials gradually came down from the middle of the year under review for a short period but the finished product prices not only kept pace with this rate in fall but mostly preceded it, because of the intense competition in the PSF market.

During the year prices of PSF dropped from a high of Rs. 89,000/- per tonne in August, 1989, to a low of Rs. 66,000/- per tonne in February, 1990.

The Central Govt. Budget brought in some relief in that the Excise duty on PSF was reduced from Rs. 16.44 per kg. to Rs. 10.20 per kg. This would normally have resulted in a reduction in the delivered price of fibre by Rs. 6/- per kg but practically the whole of this gain was nullified by the imposition of an excise duty on DMT/PTA at the rate of 15.75% and an increase in the import duty on MEG from 90% to 150%. This resulted in the benefit not being passed on to the consumer in a distinctive manner.

Government of India, in order to bring down the costs, rightly decided to impose some price discipline on the manufacturers of the main precursor of PSF viz. DMT/PTA. Govt. issued instructions for the DMT prices to be brought down to Rs. 23,500/- MT from Rs. 29,000/- MT, while those of PTA to Rs. 24,500/- MT from Rs. 32,000/- MT. PTA manufacturer complied with the Government's directive while the DMT manufacturers demurred and reduced the prices either partially or long after the required date. The precursor prices regime is such that the PTA based PSF manufacturers enjoy an advantage over the DMT based manufacturers of Rs. 2/3 per kg even after taking credit for bye-product Methanol. Manufacturers like Swadeshi Polytex who are solely dependent on DMT are thus placed at a disadvantage as against others most of whom have the dual feed (DMT/PTA) flexibility built into their plants. Recent increase in the prices of PTA has for the moment corrected this imbalance.

The Company's exports improved from 210 MT in the previous period to 480 MT including 161 MT of deemed exports in the period under review.

CURRENT YEAR

One of the most gratifying results of the reduction in the prices of PSF has been that of a further improvement in demand. Domestic demand that was languishing at a rate of 6200 MT/month rate for the period April-Sept, 89 gradually went up to 7900 MT/month rate from Oct, 89 to March, 90. It has now reached a level of 9400 MT/month on an average if the period April, 90 to August, 90 is taken into account.

Your Company's sales have also improved by 17%. Total sales for the April-August, 90 period are 4358 MT compared to 3726 MT during the last year. Exports have also been better at 438 MT compared to 120 MT. During the Current Year for the first 5 months, Company has recorded an increase of 18% in Production. Company produced 3780 MT of PSF from April, 90 to August, 90 during the current year as against 3202 MT of PSF during the previous year. The finished goods inventory, which acquired alarming proportion has also been liquidated to a larger extent. Despite an improvement in volumes the margins have been under severe strain because of the unremunerative PSF prices. Despite the very uncertain position with regard to prices and availability of the raw materials, the Management is quite hopeful that the Company's overall performance during the year will be quite satisfactory in view of the special circumstances of the Company.

ECONOMIES

Under the current difficult conditions the company has initiated various economic measures to reduce costs, improve productivity and efficiencies.

BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

The recent conflict in the Gulf has caused a lot of turmoil in the petrochemicals market. The prices of crude oil have gone up and these are beginning to get reflected in the downstream products. International prices of the raw materials for PSF have also shot up, there are also fears of a shortfall in the overall availability of the inputs.

Even in the India the prices of DMT and PTA have been raised from early September and their availability affected. Uncertainty continues to prevail as far as the future availability and prices of DMT and PTA are concerned. Although the Govt. has allowed imports of DMT/PTA against additional Import Licences the premiums are so high that the input costs will push PSF prices to a level which is bound to affect volumes. Representations have been made to the Govt. to place DMT/PTA on OGL or issue Supplementary Licences for import to keep the input costs to the minimum and ensure availability.

Fibre prices have had to be raised to make-up some of the increases in the raw material prices. Further increases may be unavoidable if the raw material prices go up further.

EXPANSION & DIVERSIFICATION

The Company's Modernisation plans are progressing as per the schedule, which is expected to be completed in 1991. Orders for the critical long delivery items have already been placed and others are in the pipeline. IDBI has sanctioned the loan for this project. Once completed this should result in

- Raising the plant capacity from 14000 MT to 17000 MT per annum
- Improving further the quality fibre and efficiencies of the raw materials and utility usages
- Widening the product range.

On the POY/PFY project the progress has been less than satisfactory.

The Company has submitted its application to the Financial Institutions. Number of visits have been made representing to the Financial Institutions that the POY/PFY Project, as envisaged, is most essential for the survival of the company. Government had also held a meeting of all the Companies, who have been issued letter of intent/Industrial License to assess the seriousness to implement the project. The Company's representatives have expressed Company's keenness to implement the project. Our efforts to convince Financial Institutions to finance the Project are continuing and we hope that our proposal would soon find favour with them.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

The most important asset of any industrial enterprise is its employees. We are proud of the quality of the effort put in by all our officers, Staff and Workers. It is through this effort that Swadeshi Polytex Limited continues to enjoy the market leadership in the quality and consistency of its product. The Industrial Relations continue to be cordial, the credit for this goes as much to the loyalty and maturity of our employees. My whole hearted appreciation for this cooperation.

Mr. C.R. Thakore consequent to his taking up an assignment in Zimbabwe, resigned from the Board of the Company. The Board wishes to place on record its appreciation of the very positive contribution made by him during his association with the Board.

Mr. Ajit Singh, the former Chairman of the Board, retired from the Services of the Government of India on attainment of superannuation and hence ceases to be on the Board. The Board wishes to place on record its appreciation of the very valuable services rendered by Mr. Ajit Singh during his association with the Board.

It is my pleasure to express our sincere thanks to the Central Government, the Government of U.P., Financial Institutions and Banks for their guidance, cooperation and help. I am grateful to my colleagues on the Board for their active participation and wise counsel at all times.

26th September, 1990

V. Sundaram
Chairman

Note : *This does not purport to be a record of the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting.*

Swadeshi Polytex – creating tomorrow's fibre today

Jaylene®

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Crompton Greaves

CROMPTON GREAVES LIMITED • LIGHTING DIVISION • DR. E. MOSES ROAD • WORLI • BOMBAY 400 018. • TEL: 493 3916.

ALL THERE IS TO LIGHT.

THAT INCLUDES industrial and commercial lighting. Street and floodlighting.Specific Luminaires such as Flameproof and Increased safety type. And home lighting including bulbs and tubelights. Made by Crompton Greaves. The widest range of luminaires you can get. And that, we're afraid , is all there is to light (not counting the sun, the moon, the stars and lightning, of course.)

Crompton Greaves LIMITED

LUMINAIRES

The Thapar Group

LINTAS CGL LUM 20 2517

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

was not in cardiac failure." At 5.30 p.m. Mukharji was finally admitted to a single room in a ward.

Mukherjee, who visited the patient almost daily, also dismisses all charges of negligence by the high commission. She says it was made clear to the hospital, on the basis of an assurance from the accompanying diplomat, that money would not be a consideration in the chief justice's treatment. Said she: "They are unnecessarily victimising the person who helped out the most—Kuldip Nayar."

But, in fact, the first victim of the controversy was Dr Rayan, a general practitioner on the high commission's medical panel. Claiming that he had lost faith in him, Nayar said that the high commission is not going to give him any more cases. Said Dr Rayan: "One can be charged with being negligent if the patient is treated wrongly. But since I did not even treat the patient where is the question of negligence."

Meanwhile, on September 21—a day after being admitted—the chief justice was given a CT scan which revealed the possibility of his having suffered heart and brain clots. He was then admitted to the intensive coronary care unit. According to the medical report, the chief justice remained "reasonably well" until September 24 when he suffered "further seizures, this time developing from focal into generalised convulsions."

SHARAD SAXENA

"I am willing to hold an inquiry by anybody the House selects."
I.K. GUJRAL

Despite the best efforts to resuscitate him, Mukharji suffered a massive heart attack at 8 a.m. on September 25 and died an hour later. Said Dr Mukherjee: "The chief justice was a very sick man and I don't think any treatment could have helped him." Importantly, the doctor says Mukharji came to London after a very hectic tour of the US and "such hopping tours by air are very bad for the heart".

Even as the controversy rages, the man at the centre of it all—Nayar—remains stoic though a bit disillusioned. Said he: "I came to London thinking I could do something for my country. But this thing has left me quite disgusted." *(see box)* If anything, Nayar made a special effort to see the ailing chief justice even though he himself had been discharged from hospital only on September 17 and advised two weeks complete rest.

However, it is unlikely that the dust that has been raised after Mukharji's death will settle down until the inquiry is held.

—DIPANKAR DE SARKAR in London

KULDIP NAYAR

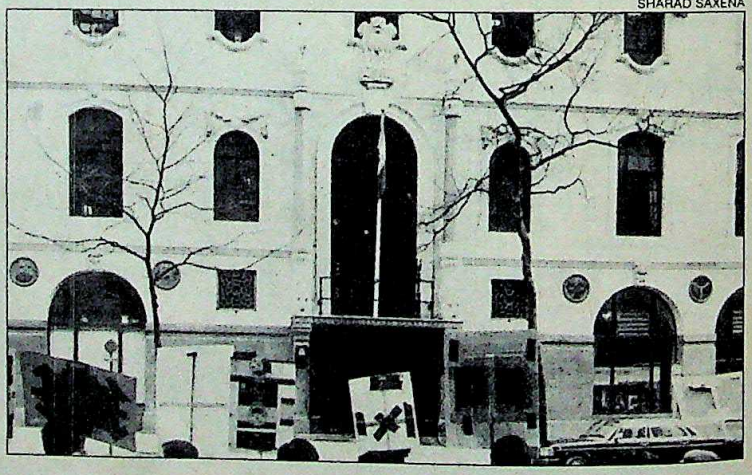
Fine Record

FAMOUS as an anti-establishment journalist, Kuldip Nayar surprised fellow-scribes when he accepted a job closely connected with the establishment: as high commissioner to UK. Yet despite all odds, Nayar, in inimitable style, soon laid all doubts to rest.

Nayar's popularity among the Indian community in Britain has swelled steadily. By extending his informal style to India House bureaucrats and a string of measures to liberalise India's visa regime, Nayar has made not only the high commission but even India more accessible to the community.

One of Nayar's first steps was to announce planned unilateral cuts in visas. Indians in Britain now have to pay a uniform fee of only £7 for single, double and triple entry visas instead of a graded-system where fees could go up to £35. Nayar also extended the visa period from two years to five years and provided a roving visa-office in smaller towns of Britain. He also persuaded the Government to extend the validity period of an Indian passport from five to 10 years.

SHARAD SAXENA



Indian High Commission

Nayar also made efforts to wean away Britain-based Punjab extremists from their demand for Khalistan. As a result a Home Ministry blacklist of suspected overseas 'extremists' has been pruned after scrutiny.

Not that Nayar's diplomatic career has been free of controversy. But as British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher reportedly told him at a recent dinner: "You have a way with the people." Not surprisingly, as many as 120 British journalists and 70 members of the British Parliament crowded India House for two recent curry lunches. Clearly, Thatcher's remark may not have been more than a diplomatic courtesy but there are more than a million Indians—as well as many Englishmen—in Britain who will back it. —DIPANKAR DE SARKAR

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

THE SECOND MOST IMPORTANT DECISION YOU WILL HAVE TO MAKE TOGETHER.

KOHINOOR

PINK LUXURY CONDOMS

You've decided you belong together. Through the thick and thin of life. This is the time to take the second most important decision of your life. To give yourself a few years before children and growing responsibilities tie you down to the daily grind. For this you need a contraceptive method that suits you both.

A method that affords you all the pleasure and protection without unpleasant side effects, messy clinical examinations or the worry and tension of counting days and monitoring temperature. A method as simple, sure and safe as the condom.

Kohinoor Confidence

Millions of young couples plan their families and space their children with Kohinoor confidence. Kohinoor gives you the near natural feeling of total pleasure without interfering with the closeness you share. It's made of the finest latex and electronically tested to make it completely safe. By people who understand your need for privacy and protection. Ask for it by name. Kohinoor. And share the Kohinoor confidence.

Available in packs of tens and threes.

A Product

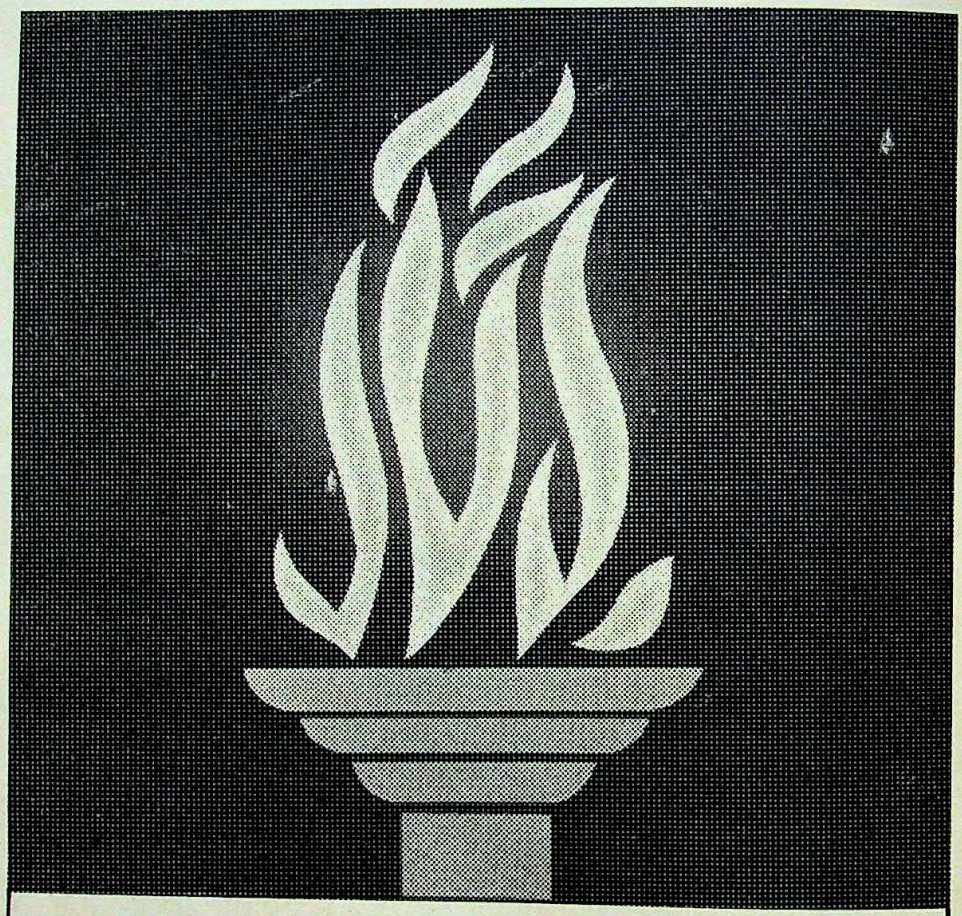
MAA COMMUNICATIONS 1162

Plan your family with Kohinoor confidence

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

THIS LIGHT WILL BRIGHTEN UP
YOUR LIFE YEAR AFTER YEAR



IND JYOTHI

7 YEAR INCREMENTAL GROWTH FUND

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Provide for the coming years. Make the future secure, for yourself and your family. With Ind Jyothi, the unique Growing and Assured Income Scheme.

It's unique because it gives you a minimum assured return of 12.75% from year one. And progressively increases it year after year. So, in the 7th year you get an assured income of 15.25% p.a. Plus bonus too.

Nothing's left to chance. Your gain is specified in the chart.

Special Incentive for early subscribers

Application received during the period	Incentive for every Rs. 1000 of subscription retained
• 1st October to 15th October 1990	Rs. 20/-
• 16th October to 31st October 1990	Rs. 15/-
• 1st November to 15th November 1990	Rs. 10/-
• 16th November to 30th November 1990 or such extended date	NIL

MINIMUM ASSURED INCOME

Year	Income	Period	
		From	To
1	12.75%	Allotment Date	31.3.92
2	13.25%	1.4.92	31.3.93
3	13.75%	1.4.93	31.3.94
4	14.25%	1.4.94	31.3.95
5	14.75%	1.4.95	31.3.96
6	14.75%	1.4.96	31.3.97
7	15.25%	1.4.97	31.3.98

Choose from either of two plans.

Plan A: Assured return is payable annually.
Plan B: Assured return declared annually, will be added back to the investment and accumulated sum will be paid on maturity.

Highlights of the Scheme

- Ind Jyothi is yet another winner from Indian Bank Mutual Fund. The people who brought you Ind Ratna and Swarna Pushpa.
- It's totally safe. And assures high returns. From 12.75% in year one to a high 15.25% in the 7th year.
- Plus Bonus.
- Allotment is assured.
- To be listed at Bombay and other stock exchanges after one year.

Application forms available and accepted at all branches of Indian Bank.

Indian Bank
MUTUAL FUND
Principal Trustee: Indian Bank

D.G. Chambers, Nanak Motwani Marg,
Fort, Bombay 400 023.

HELPS BUILD YOUR FORTUNE

ISSUE OPEN

2:2436

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

INDIAN ARMY

Quelling Sordid Affairs

Senior officers are dismissed for debauchery

THE new Army Chief, General S.F. Rodrigues, launched his first offensive almost as soon as he took over. The attack was aimed not at any external threat, but at what Rodrigues deems the enemy within the army: the moral turpitude of some of its officers.

In a move that stunned all echelons of the 40,000-odd army officers, show cause notices were slapped on three senior officers under the Army Act for "stealing affections of a brother officer's wife." Army HQ officials also reveal that as many as 150 officers above the rank of major have been booked for misconduct, corruption and inefficiency in the past two years.

While the occasional officer has been asked to retire prematurely in the past following similar charges, this is the first time that senior officers of the ranks of lt-general and major general have been told to put in their papers simultaneously. That too on the charge of 'misconduct'—a euphemism for debauchery—which is difficult to substantiate. Previously, these cases were investigated only against a specific complaint, usually made by the aggrieved officer or his wife. This time the army top brass has taken action in some of the cases on its own initiative.

Normally, the army authorities used to soft-pedal this issue and let off the erring party with a 'severe reprimand' which translates into a demotion or withholding a promotion or transferring the officer involved. But now it means termination of service.

Justifying the drastic step Lt-General B.T. Pandit, the army's adjutant general, says: "We don't want to interfere in the private life of officers. But if the functioning of the command suffers, that is not acceptable."

Army officials assert that a corp commander is a very visible individual and his acts of omission and commission affect the discipline of the troops. "Hence," argues Pandit, "it is essential to carry out such punitive actions to maintain the army as an island of discipline in a sea of indiscipline."

This moralistic stand first emerged during the tenure of the former chief General V.N. Sharma. Most of the cases which have been taken up were initiated during his time. Defending his move, Sharma says: "The code of conduct has to be maintained otherwise we'll become like the police force."

Behind this moralistic facade is a practical rationale. In the recent past the top brass has been concerned over the growing trend among junior officers of encouraging their seniors to 'steal the affections' of their spouses for furthering their own careers. This, in turn, has led to the rise of a large number of mediocre officers, unsavoury wheeling-dealing, and blackmail. By taking a firm stand they hope to clean up the organisation and improve its operational capability.

Warning that such a stand will shake the officers' confidence in the system, a senior Sena Bhavan officer counters: "Are officers chosen for their professional capabilities or for being devoted husbands?" Another former army commander asserts that the professional competence of these officers was never in question. In fact, all the officers said to have been charge-sheeted have served with distinction, been decorated and held vital posts.

Despite good intentions, some army officials fear that there may be an element of witch-hunting in the cleaning up operation, as many of the cases are quite old and have recently been resurrected. Only one of them—involving a captain—is a new case. They claim that by removing some of these officers the top brass is clearing the way for others to rise to crucial positions.

Cartoon by AJIT NINAN

The top authorities have been extremely concerned that the decline in moral standards of the army will lead to a rapid rise of a large number of mediocre officers, unsavoury wheeling-dealing and blackmail.

This is vehemently denied by Pandit.

However, Pandit admits that even though the army is keen on catching the offenders at an early stage, it is not always possible, leading to delayed action. Worse, conclusive proof of the 'liberal affections' of an officer towards another officer's wife is generally not available.

Despite these shortcomings, the army claims that all the cases it has processed are irrefutable and will stand the testimony of any court. Clearly, the army is determined to go ahead with its clean up operation on a priority basis, even though it may cause a set back to its operational efficiency, in some cases.

—W.P.S. SIDHU

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

The upper crest

The crest says it all.
Immaculate cut. Relentless stripes.
Designs of a higher order.
Louis Philippe. The international
signature of success.

Your ultimate credential

Louis Philippe
SIGNED DESIGNERWEAR

Premium shirts, trousers and accessories

Louis Philippe is a designer label of The British Van Heusen Co. Ltd. Brought to you by Madura Coats.

Louis Philippe Exclusive Showrooms at: AHMEDABAD: G7 Amar Chamber, Near Swastik Char Rasta, Navrangpura. **BANGALORE:** Davidoss Building, Commercial Street. • **BOMBAY:** India House No. 2, Kemps Corner. **CALCUTTA:** 35A Park Mansion, 57A Park Street. **COCHIN:** North End, M.G. Road. **COIMBATORE:** Century Plaza, 87/89 D.B. Road, R.S. Puram. **NEW DELHI:** F-43, South Extension 1. **MADRAS:** Rani Seethai Hall, Opp. Anna Flyover. **SURAT:** Sagar House, Parshwanagar Complex, Majura Gate.

Louis Philippe Dress Circle Stores: MADRAS: Main Frame, Alsa Mall, Kemps Corner. CALCUTTA: Only Collection, Upper Wood Street.

CHAITRA-K-2990 IT R.A

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ROLTASTATION 6000

UNMATCHED POWER AND SPEED FOR THE WIDEST RANGE OF PRODUCTIVE CAD/CAM SOLUTIONS.

Rolta announce RoltaStation 6000 series — now manufactured in India. In collaboration with world leader Intergraph of USA, the industry's fastest growing vendor, we provide CAD/CAM solutions that do the job and do it well.

Intergraph is a Fortune 500 company with over 8000 people and a turnover of over Rs.1500 crores. The world's largest company dedicated to developing and manufacturing interactive computer graphics systems, it offers the widest range of CAD/CAM solutions. Intergraph is the undisputed world leader for most application areas.

Our partnership through a comprehensive technical collaboration brings in their long standing tradition of excellence, apart from the latest technology.

At the heart of RoltaStation 6000 is the CLIPPER microprocessor with its advanced high performance RISC architecture and clock speed faster than any other 32 bit microprocessor.

Its super computer style Harvard architecture incorporates technologies that have never before been applied to microcomputers.

Through innovative design and precise integration, Intergraph has united input/output and memory functions with the C300 CLIPPER CPU, creating a proficient trio that works efficiently to yield 12.5 MIPS throughout in the Series 6000.

It starts with 16 mb of memory and allows upto 64 mb to grow on. You can expand disk storage from 200 mb to 2.9 gigabytes and keep pace with your workload as demands get tougher.

RoltaStation 6000 graphics system powerfully executes high quality, colour rich graphics with 256 colours from a palette of 16.7 million, tailored to display sophisticated images quickly, providing 360,000 vectors per second.

For demanding production environments, Rolta provides the dual screen models. The Rolta DualStations offer high performance interactive graphics capabilities combined with multimode processing.

OPEN SYSTEMS—COMMITMENT TO STANDARDS

Industry standards in system hardware and software, networking, graphics, compilers, databases, and terminal emulation are integral to RoltaStation 6000 Series.

Our commitment spans the complete spectrum of standards available in the industry, including X Window System OSF/Motif, PHIGS, XNS, TCP/IP, ISO/OSI and NFS just to name a few.

Industry-standard networking capabilities enable RoltaStation 6000 to fit easily into a variety of environments.

Our Relational Interface System (RIS) from Intergraph offers a unique flexibility to you to integrate RDMS of your choice, may it be Informix, Ingres, Oracle or DB2.

We go beyond where our competitors stop, providing you with a high level of integration throughout our software applications.

Consistent data formats and user interfaces mean that our products work together, logically and easily.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

STEM SOFTWARE—SO MUCH AND AT TOO FREE

Standard System Software, which is DELIVERED EE with every RoltaStation, maintains and updates workstation and its environment. It is a collection of IX System V and Intergraph-developed packages t support programming, network communications, tware customization, plotting and includes the owing packages:

- UNIX Boot Package
- Delivery Tools
- System V File System
- System V Administrative Utilities
- System V Online Documentation
- Environ V
- VT220 Terminal Emulation
- Intergraph Network Core (INC) Communications Package
- Rebuild Floppy Disk
- Accessories
- Screen Copy/ASCII-Print Resources
- X Window System
- Geometry Pipeline (G-Pipe) Target-Shared Library
- Menubuilder
- EMACS/Editor
- Looking Glass
- Interplot Nucleus

TEGRATED SOFTWARE—OVER 1000 PPLICATIONS

We, in partnership with Intergraph, offer the largest lection of functional solutions available from any computer aphics company today ranging from mechanical, ectronics and plant design to a suite of applications in chitecture, civil engineering, mapping/GIS, oil/gas ploration and scanning for management of technical awings & documents.

Our firm commitment to binary compatibility, industry andards and total integration across disciplines — matched by any other vendor — protects your investment corporate data bases and people while allowing for ased implementation.

ENTRY LEVEL SOLUTIONS—ROLTASTATION 386

We also offer RoltaStation 386, an 80386 based system, with a wide array of application software. It is an inexpensive, easy to use entrylevel system providing upward compatibility and a seamless growth path to RoltaStation 6000 environment. Larger users can now have a judicious mix of RoltaStation 6000 and RoltaStation 386 for tremendous cost effectiveness.

OTHERS SELL COMPUTERS—WE PROVIDE SOLUTIONS

ROLTA's approach has always been to acquire the latest technology and skills and then offer the users a Total Solution.

Rolta recognises your need for comprehensive support and services to back its excellent hardware/software solutions.

Comprehensive Services are crucial for any successful project. Beginning with implementation and installation services, Rolta provides complete technical support and comprehensive maintenance services for its hardware and software.

Exhaustive collaboration agreement with Intergraph ensures that Rolta has continued access to the latest development and innovations resulting from massive R&D efforts of Intergraph—over Rs.150 crores annually. This in turn ensures, that we are able to keep our customers updated and abreast with the World Technology.

Rolta fully realises the importance of total commitment to customer. With this in view we have made an investment of more than Rs.40 crores in manufacturing, marketing and support facilities and have acquired a team of more than 400 highly qualified and skilled people to serve you.

For us a sale is not the end, but the beginning of a long term partnership.

ROLTA

ROLTA INDIA LIMITED

Rolta Bhavan, Andheri (E), Bombay 400 093.
Tel: 6327708 Telex: 011 79139 Fax: 91 22 6365992

Regional Offices :

West : Rolta Bhavan, MIDC Marol, Andheri (E), Bombay 400 093. Tel: 6327837
North : M-76, Greater Kailash II, New Delhi 110 048. Tel: 6462616
South : 34/4, Meanee Avenue Road, Bangalore 560 042. Tel: 570516
East : 7C, Shakespeare Court, 21A, Theatre Road, Calcutta 700 017. Tel: 440083

Branch Offices :

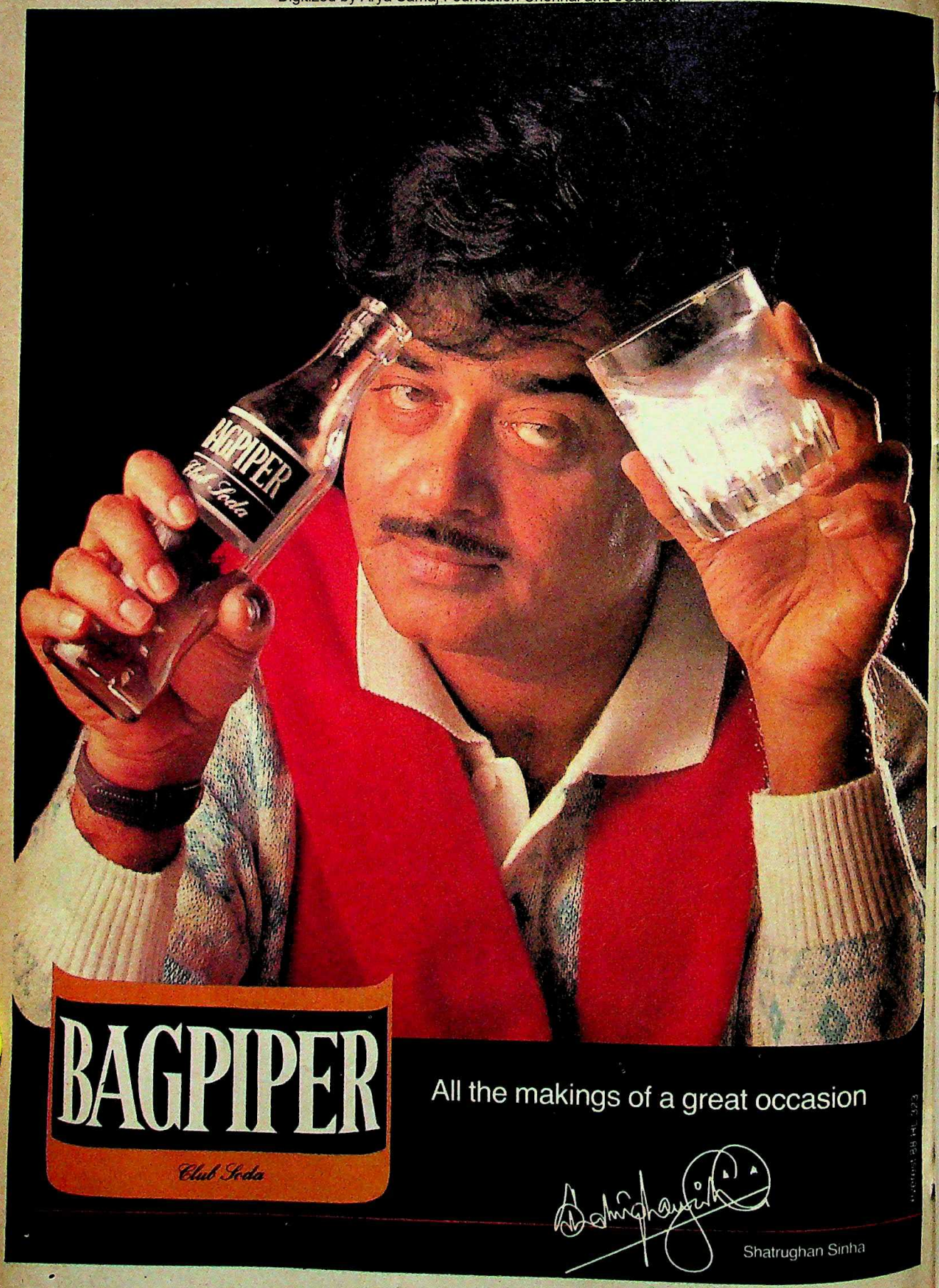
● Pune ● Baroda ● Hyderabad ● Madras ● Indore ● Dehra Dun

PRESSMAN

IT PAYS TO GO WITH A TECHNOLOGY LEADER

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

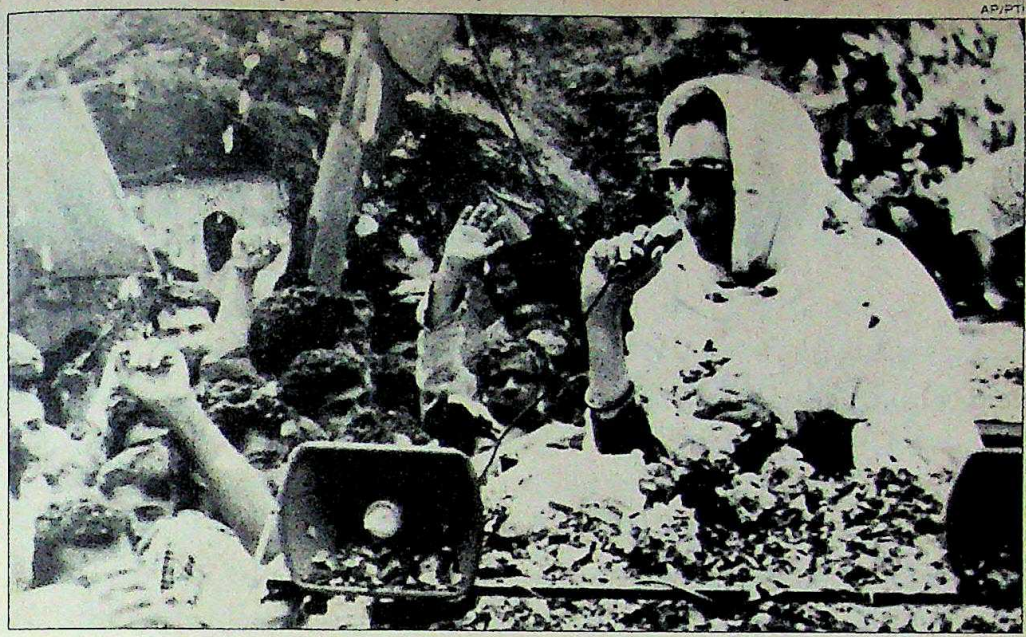
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

AP/PTI



Former prime minister Benazir Bhutto at an election rally: riding the sympathy wave

PAKISTAN

Battlelines Drawn

Benazir gains ground even as the "Establishment" tries to nail her

ALTHOUGH banners are up and the battlelines are drawn, very few people in Pakistan are optimistic about general elections being held on October 24. A feeling of uncertainty looms large as the vote bandwagons roll across the country which is poised at a crucial stage in its troubled evolution as a parliamentary democracy.

The military-backed caretaker government seems to have failed to contain Benazir Bhutto. Her trial on corruption and misconduct charges has misfired as she has turned the court battle into a moral and propaganda victory for herself. The caretaker administration has failed to substantiate any of the charges against her and her former cabinet colleagues.

"Her party may get the majority if her popularity graph continues to rise," admits a leader of the Islami Jamhoori Ittehad (IJI), the nine-party alliance pitted against her. This has sparked off speculation about elections being postponed as the military would never allow her return to power.

Doubts about elections being held on schedule were further intensified when Asif Ali Zardari, Benazir's husband was arrested on charges of kidnapping a Pakistani-born British citizen and extorting $17 million from him. An angry Benazir said that it was meant to keep her from contesting in the polls but "we will fight". The arrest, though not unexpected, reflected the Government's apprehensions about Benazir's rising popularity.

Even earlier however there were some indications of elections being put off when General Mirza Aslam Beg, the chief of army staff revealed a plot to subvert the polls by creating internal disorder. "The possibility of elections being postponed cannot be ruled out. But its responsibility would lie entirely on the PPP which is on the war path with President Ghulam Ishaq Khan," says Ghafoor Ahmed, the secretary-general of the IJI alliance which

> **Asif Ali Zardari's arrest and General Mirza Aslam Beg's reference to a plot to subvert the polls ominously point to a conspiracy to put off the October 24 elections.**

PRAMOD PUSHKARNA

General Beg: holding the cards

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

FACTS ABOUT ASBES

It's a fact that Asbestos Cement Sheets are a combination of 90% cement and 10% asbestos: a natural fibre with 3 to 4 times the strength of steel.

It's pre-fabricated, ready-to-use and has the advantages of both cement and asbestos.

As a matter of fact, Asbestos Cement Sheets need no protective coatings or treatment. Corrosive industrial pollutants leave them unharmed.

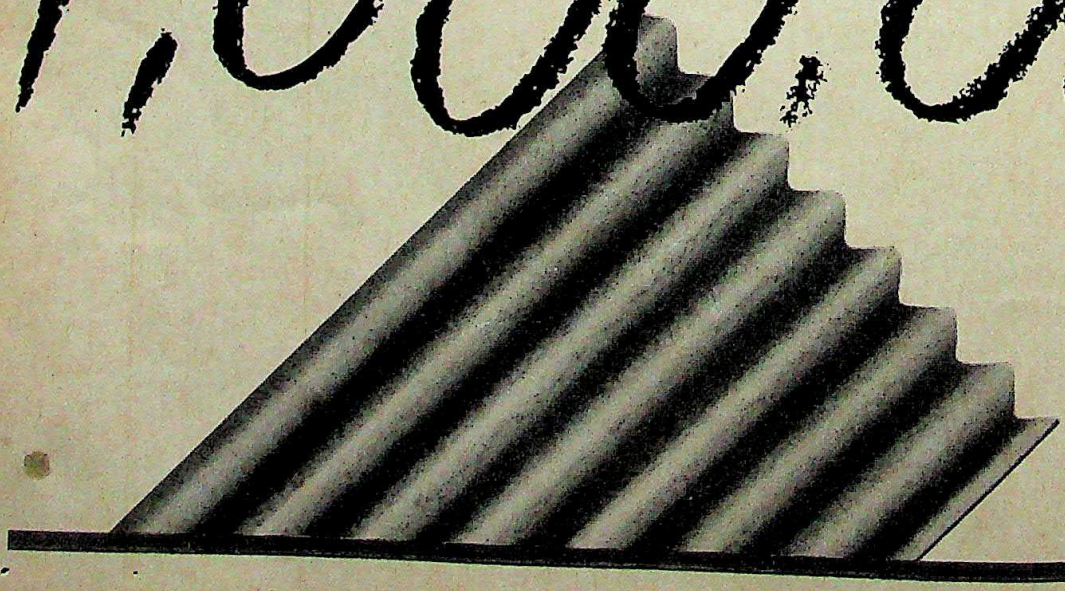
It's inherently resistant to fire, heat, rain and salty coastal air, resulting in a long lasting product. Add to the long life of these sheets, higher coverage efficiency. And you have the most cost-effective roofing material.

Fact is, Asbestos Cement pipes, sheets, slates and shingles have been used since the turn of the century. And continue to be used all over the world.

42 lakh tonnes of asbestos, a natural mineral, is mined around the world every year. In countries like USSR, Canada, Brazil and Zimbabwe. Of this, India uses only 2%.

SUMMED UP WITH A

1,000,00



Safe

t out by ve

en to who

The n

the enviro

Leadi

orking gro

safe.

Finall

a fact that

ASBES

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ESOS CEMENT SHEETS.

Safe to use. Rather than listen to propaganda t out by vested interests about Asbestos Cement Sheets, ten to what the experts have to say.

The normal use of Asbestos Cement poses no risk the environment or the public.

Leading environmentalists, epidemiologists and the orking group of the W.H.O. agree that this material safe.

Finally, let the study group of the Health and Safety Executive of H.M. Govt. of the U.K. clear all your doubts.

"Asbestos Cement products are sometimes confused in the public mind with asbestos insulation. We should think it necessary, therefore, to say that we should not expect danger to arise from existing Asbestos Cement products, eg. roofing, sheeting and guttering"

So, if you're looking for the ideal roofing material, you can't do better than choose Asbestos Cement Sheets.

And that's a fact.

THA FEW FIGURES.

0,000m²

s a fact that over 1 billion square metres of Asbestos Cement Roofing Sheets are in use in India. With nearly 60 million more added every year.)

ASBESTOS CEMENT SHEETS. SAFE TO USE. LAST A LIFETIME.

THE ASBESTOS CEMENT PRODUCTS MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION.

Enterprise/D/ACPMA/556

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Titanor Components Limited. A hi-tech import substitution venture.

In technical and financial collaboration with world leaders, The Oronzio DeNora Group, Italy.

®

The DeNora Group of Italy are world leaders in the supply of plants, components and technology for the Chlor-Alkali Industry. They are well-known to the user industry in India and are now coming to the country with direct equity and technology participation in Titanor Components Limited (TCL).

The Promoters

The DeNora Group account for more than 70% of the electrodes market for the Chlor-Alkali Industry. They are one of the three largest companies in the world that supply complete plant and technology for this industry. They have a worldwide presence, covering operations in many countries.

Apart from the Chlor-Alkali Industry, DeNora have superior technology for Electro-Chlorinators, Water-Electrolysers and Anodes for Cathodic Protection Systems.

The Indian promoters of TCL include Mr. Kamaljit Singh, Chairman of Alfa-Laval (India) Limited and Hoganas India Limited, and Mr. Krishan Khanna, Vice-Chairman of Hoganas India Ltd. Both Mr. Singh and Mr. Khanna are major promoters of Hoganas India Ltd. — a successful Indo-Swedish venture.

The Technology

With technical support from DeNora, TCL is introducing 4 product groups with powerfully pre-emptive technology:

1. Electrodes for Ion-Exchange Membrane Cell for the Chlor-Alkali Industry.
2. Electro-Chlorinators for water treatment.
3. Water-Electrolysers for hydrogen.
4. Impressed current anodes for cathodic protection systems.

The Prospects

The prospects for all 4 products are substantial:

a. The Government is insisting on conversion to the Ion-Exchange Membrane process which will affect 42 Chlor-Alkali plants. The average demand for anodes and cathodes generated by this directive, will be approximately Rs. 6 crore per plant. The projected market is approx. Rs. 250 crore over the next 6/7 years.

b. Electro-Chlorinators for drinking water purification are products in a virgin market where the demand is as large as the country's polluted drinking water problem.

c. There are 150 major vanaspati manufacturers in India, all of whom are clamouring for pure hydrogen. TCL is the only company with "state of the art" technology to provide such a facility.

d. The massive investment in ONGC off-shore operations is a boom market for TCL anodes for cathodic protection systems. These are used for corrosion prevention for oil rigs and oil pipelines.

The Issue

The total project cost is estimated at approx. Rs. 914 lakhs, including cost of acquisition. TCL has an equity base of Rs. 300 lakhs, of which 80% will be controlled by DeNora and the Indian promoters.

To part finance the venture, TCL is offering 20% of its equity to the public, totalling Rs. 60 lakhs.

Issue of 6,00,000 shares of Rs. 10 each for cash at par. Issue opens on 5th November, 1990.

Rs. 950 lakhs orders booked

Issue Highlights

- High-tech Import Substitution Project.
- Same Indian promoters as in Hoganas India Limited.
- Unique products catering to high growth markets.
- Acquired an existing venture with running business and sale contracts.
- Commercial production started December 1989.
- Over Rs. 950 lakh orders booked in just 5 months!
- Catering to the energy saving Membrance Cell components market for Chlor-Alkali industry.
- 88A, 80L, 80M & Wealth-tax benefits.

Oronzio DeNora Group, Italy

- Established in 1923 in Italy, world leaders in Chlor-Alkali/ Equipment Cells.
- Operating worldwide in Italy, Netherlands, Switzerland, Luxembourg, USA, Japan, Brazil, Singapore and India.
- More than 10% of turnover invested in R&D annually.
- 70% of Chlor-Alkali production in the world is with Metal Anodes under trademark DSA (DSA is the trademark of the Group).
- Well-known to users in India.
- The Group has a very healthy net worth of Rs. 350 crores and an annual cash flow of Rs. 70 crores.

®

TITANOR COMPONENTS LIMITED

® Registered Trademark of Oronzio DeNora Group, Italy

Registered Office: 204 Tolstoy House, 15, Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi 110 001.

LEAD MANAGERS TO THE ISSUE:

HongkongBank

Merchant Banking Division
314, Dr. Dadabhoy Naoroji Road,
Bombay 400 001

ANZ Grindlays Bank

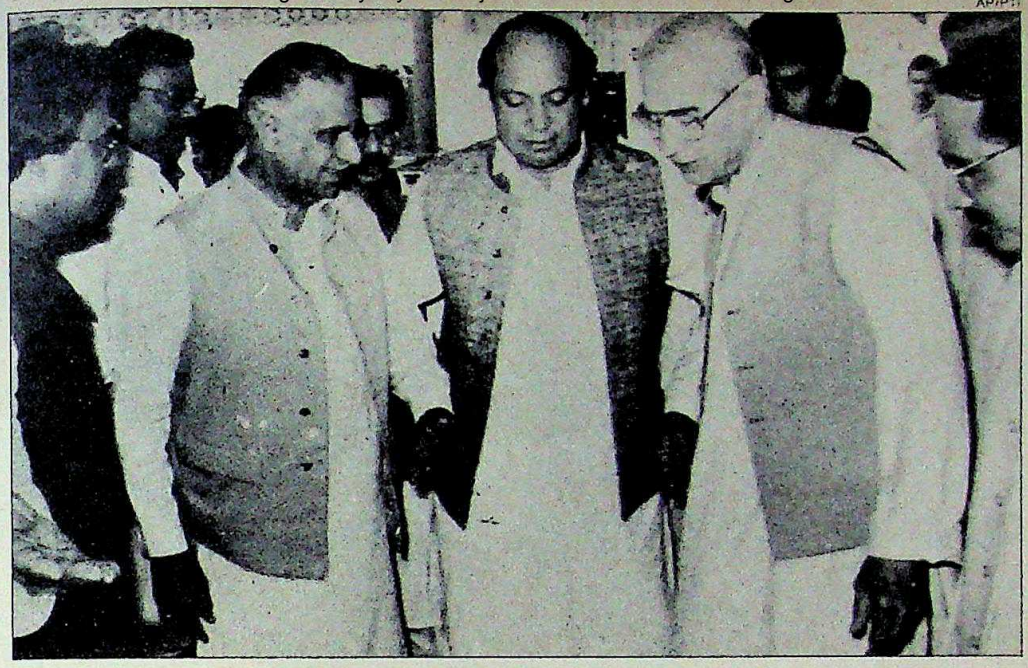
Merchant Banking Division
132, Mint Road, Post Box 93,
Bombay 400 001.

CONTOUR-TCL-115A/90

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

AP/PTI



Leaders of the Islamic Democratic Alliance discussing election strategy: desperate campaign

controls the caretaker Government.

Benazir, whose government was dismissed by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan on charges of corruption on August 6, is facing trial on four counts by special tribunals in Lahore and Karachi, which are empowered to disqualify the accused from taking part in the elections for seven years.

Over a dozen of Benazir's former cabinet ministers are also on trial. She had earlier refused to recognise the special tribunals but agreed to appear before them " to draw attention to the fact that a former prime minister is being dragged from court to court".

Justice Wajihuddin Ahmed of Karachi High Court exempted her from appearing in person for the trial and declared her innocent till the charges against her were substantiated.

But the Government continued to turn the heat on her. The President launched yet another diatribe on Benazir for the happenings in the Lahore High court when her supporters had disrupted the proceedings. The caretaker administration also tried to use the incident to warn the army that if adequate measures were not taken, things could get out of its control.

Even though the campaign tempo is rising much of the battle is being fought in the portals of the judiciary. Benazir achieved a short lived victory as the Peshawar High Court declared illegal the dismissal of her government in the North West Frontier Province.

The provincial Assembly was however suspended by the Supreme Court just a few hours after the judgement. The Lahore and Karachi High Courts are hearing the petition against the dismissal of the Benazir government and dissolution of the Assembly.

MEANWHILE, some reports suggest that Benazir while aiming her guns at the President has on the sly approached Beg for a rapprochement and might even concede the formation of a national security council (which includes the President, the prime minister and the chief of army staff) to supervise the running of the Government. She reportedly agreed to give Beg three years extension if voted back to power. But such efforts may not succeed because of their long standing mutual suspicion.

While aiming her guns at the President, Benazir is believed to have made a secret approach to Beg for rapprochement but such efforts may not succeed because of their mutual suspicion.

But, if the elections are held, the PPP is poised to emerge as the single largest party in the Assembly. Not only has Benazir maintained her grip in Sindh but there are clear signs of its gaining support in the Punjab which has over 60 per cent of seats in the National Assembly. PPP leaders are optimistic of sweeping over 50 per cent of them.

The most interesting electoral battle is being fought in Nawabshah district in Sindh from where the caretaker Prime Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi and Benazir's husband Asif Ali Zardari are contesting. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi who was defeated from his home constituency against the PPP in 1988, is likely to lose in a fair election.

The PPP also has to contend with the fiery rhetoric of some mullahs like Abdul Qadir Azad of Lahore's Badshahi mosque who expelled Benazir from Islam and also told a congregation that anyone who supports the PPP "will not enter heaven". Even so, if the groundswell of support for her continues, there are chances that unconstitutional efforts will be used to stymie her return. If that does happen, Pakistan's tryst with democracy will be tragically short-lived.

—ZAHID HUSSAIN in Karachi

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

GEARING *for* GROWTH

SPEECH OF THE CHAIRMAN V.K. MODI TO THE SHAREHOLDERS AT THE 59th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT BOMBAY ON WEDNESDAY, THE 26th OF SEPTEMBER, 1990.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have great pleasure in extending you all a very warm and hearty welcome to the 59th Annual General Meeting of your Company. The audited accounts of your Company for the financial year 1989-90 and the Directors' Report are already with you for sometime. I seek your permission to take them as read.

ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

We are meeting today against the backdrop of winds of change taking place both internally and internationally, of which the following are noteworthy:

- First, change of government in India in a democratic manner through general elections;
- Second, reform movement in Eastern Europe having far-reaching political and economic transformation for the world as a whole; and
- Third, the Gulf crisis.

V.K. MODI

We cannot be oblivious of the changes around us. The performance of the economy in general has been encouraging. During 1988-89, the economy recovered very quickly from the setback of the drought of 1987-88. GDP recorded a growth of 10.4 percent in real terms aided by a growth of agricultural production by 20.8 percent and industrial production by 8.0 percent. The increase in GDP growth was 4.5 percent. It is encouraging that a higher growth of 5 percent in GDP has been estimated by RBI and others for the current year. Similarly, 8 percent growth in industry is expected during 1990-91. Another positive feature of the economy is that an all time high record in the food production of around 176.5 million tonnes is likely to be achieved. This has been possible due to normal monsoon and availability of agricultural inputs at reasonable price.

An interesting development is the announcement of the new Industrial Policy of the Government in last May which contains several positive features, particularly relating to deregulation, industrial approvals, simplification of procedures for foreign collaboration and investment.

Government's intensions in globalising the economy through liberalised import-export policy and industrial policy is a welcome step. Nevertheless, the industrial policy statement is only the first step in this direction, but the objective must be for elimination of all industrial licensing and related regulatory measures.

The position on the balance of payments situation is rather alarming. Import bill on account of crude oil is estimated to cross Rs. 8,800 crores in 1990-91 against Rs. 6,400 crores last year. Over and above some of these developments what is further worrying is the mounting debt burden of the country which is growing every year. It is estimated that the total debt burden is to the extent of Rs. 80,132 crores. While foreign investment and technology for modernising the industry would be welcome, what is, however, needed is to tap the world market by intensifying export operations in order to enlarge India's share in the world trade which is merely 1 percent. I am sure, we can improve our share by increasing exports in the international market in a variety of products. However, unless urgent corrective measures are taken, the future growth is likely to be impaired.

OPERATIONS

During the year, the Company's plant produced 11,54,252 Automotive Tyres and 8,72,709 Tubes and sold 11,13,710 Automotive Tyres and 8,69,054 Tubes.

The production could have been higher but for high incidence of breakdown of pl and machinery which is over 50 years old. T achievements on sales were restricted to above mentioned levels due to hig competitive market.

During the period, the Company earne Gross Profit of Rs. 423 lacs and a Net Profit Rs. 218 lacs after providing for depreciati and deferred charges writtenoff. A provisi has been made for taxation amounting to 33.34 lacs and a sum of Rs. 27.90 lacs has be transferred to Investment Allowance Reserv After the aforesaid appropriations, the balan profit for the year amounted to Rs. 157 lacs.

The Profit of the Company w considerably eroded during the period und review when compared to the previous ye mainly due to substantial increase in ra material prices, manpower cost, other inpu and due to increase in finished goo inventory. I wish to state that inspite of t adverse factors briefly stated above, t Company has been able to sustain itself.

EXPORTS

The Company made a commendab performance on the export front and h successfully tapped highly competiti international markets like Banglades Afghanistan, U.K., U.A.E., Iraq, We Germany, etc. Due to sustained efforts, t Company has achieved exports aggregating Rs. 557 lacs (f.o.b. value) (Rs. 334 lacs f.o. value in the previous year) representing a increase of 67% over the previous year. Effor are continuing to tap new markets and develo new tyres and patterns to meet the expo demand.

In recognition of its outstanding expo performance, the Company has been awarde the "Certificate of Merit" by CAPEXIL, for th year 1988-89.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Your Company has a Research an Development Centre duly recognised by th Government of India. The R & D Centre

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

aking research programmes for ement in quality and minimisation of oduct cost, development of new tyre and related products, productivity se and standardization, introduction of rawn Nylon (new technology), uction of new indigenous raw-materials a result of the various R & D activities, Company has been benefitted with the opment and introduction of new ounds, improvement in the performance existing product range, addition of new ns and sizes, development of new raw ials and their sources and suitable fication in the product range so as to se exports.

W MATERIALS

During the year under review, there was age of most of the major raw materials Nylon Tyre Cord Fabric, Rubber nicals, Natural Rubber, Polybutadiene er, etc. which disturbed the production ule.

During the first six months, the Natural er was released by State Trading oration at exorbitant prices which ed in price increase of domestic rubber

Nylon Tyre Cord prices have also been ased during the period due to shortage tion. Nylon was under short supply g this period and inspite of various sentations made to Government orities to allow import of Nylon at essional Duty to meet the shortfall, the industry had to import substantial tity of Nylon at full import duty of 180% ng extra burden on tyre industry.

The position got further strained due to rd revision in foreign exchange rates, ting in increase of the cost of imported materials. Due to sharp increase in the of major raw materials and various other rs as stated above the profitability of the pany was eroded considerably. It is ening to note that due to various ures taken by the Government and stry, the availability of the major raw rials has considerably improved in the t months and I hope that the position will nue to improve in future.

DERNISATION

The Company proposes to embark upon rogramme for modernisation/re-struc- g of the existing plant and machinery. Company has already filed a loan ication with the financial institutions for ing the proposed modernisation ramme. The financial institutions have raised the project cost and estimated it at 6 crores. This matter has been considered e Board of Directors of your Company and been decided by the Board to take up the osed modernisation on priority basis. It is cted that, barring unforeseen circums- s, the proposed modernisation pro- me would be fully implemented within a d of two years after the loan has been sanctioned by the financial institutions.

The major benefits that your Company will derive on complete implementation of the aforesaid modernisation programme would be improvement in equipment reliability, balancing of the various production centres, significant reduction in the existing manpower cost as a percentage to gross turnover, optimisation of use of energy and improvement in the overall profitability of the Company.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Due to normal monsoon/availability of agricultural inputs at reasonable prices, record food production of around 176.5 million is likely to be achieved.
- New Industrial Policy contains several positive features, relating to deregulation, industrial approvals, simplification of procedure in foreign collaboration and investment.
- Balance payment situation alarming. Urgent corrective measures should be taken so as to increase exports in international markets in a variety of products.
- The working results of the Company have been satisfactory. (Gross Profit Rs. 423 lacs and Net Profit Rs. 218 lacs after providing for Depreciation and deferred charges written off.)
- Company's commendable performance on export front. Increase in exports by 67% over the previous year.
- Due to various measures taken by the Government/industry, the availability of major raw materials has considerably improved. It is hoped that the position will continue to improve in future.
- The proposed modernisation programme is being taken up on priority basis. Financial Institutions have appraised the project. Project to be completed in 2 years time after the loan has been sanctioned.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

During the period under review, the Company generally had harmonious and cordial relations with the employees.

DIRECTORS

During the year, the nominations of Shri H.C. Sharma (Nominee of IFCI), Shri R.N. Mittal (Nominee of LIC), Shri D.K. Contractor (Nominee of IDBI), Shri J.C. Marwaha (Nominee of ICICI), Shri J.J. Khatlawala (Nominee of GIC) and Shri P.Y. Karnik (Nominee of UTI) were withdrawn by the Industrial Finance Corporation of India, Life Insurance Corporation of India, Industrial Development Bank of India, Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India, General Insurance Corporation of India and Unit Trust of India respectively. However, the aforesaid directors were co-opted on the Board as additional directors and shall hold office only upto the end of this Annual General Meeting of the Company. The Company has received notices from the Members for appointment of the aforesaid persons as Directors of the Company.

OUTLOOK FOR THE CURRENT YEAR

Emphasis on Human Resources Development and Research and Development activities continued to be the key areas to consolidate the position of the Company. I hope that substantial increase in Exports will fructify during the year. Efforts are also being made to reduce costs, increase productivity and to match the competition by further improving the quality of the product. I hope that barring unforseen circumstances, the results of the current year should be better.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I place on record my appreciation to employees at all levels for contributions made by them. I also place on record my appreciation to various Central and State Government authorities, Financial Institutions and Banks for their valuable guidance and assistance. I also gratefully acknowledge the support and goodwill extended by the dealers, customers, suppliers and the shareholders.

V.K. MODI
CHAIRMAN

Note : This does not purport to be a record of the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting.

Modistone

BOMBAY TYRES INTERNATIONAL LTD.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

PUNJAB SERIALS

The Reel Disaster

Disappointing avalanche of Punjab programmes

THE Punjab tragedy is like a never-ending serial, which in fact, is what Doordarshan is currently turning it into. With the inevitable accoutrements—Hindu girls falling in love with Sikh boys or vice versa and everyone living happily ever after. If the sudden avalanche of Punjab-related serials is Doordarshan's way of applying the Government's "healing touch" to the troubled state, the strategy seems to have misfired.

The budget for electronic healing was almost limitless: Rs 3 crore was allocated for the national integration and communal harmony campaign which began in 1987. Although Doordarshan commissioned over 36 telefilms, 16 TV serials and a host of documentaries, viewer reaction to these programmes—christened *Sarson ka Sagas*—has been largely negative.

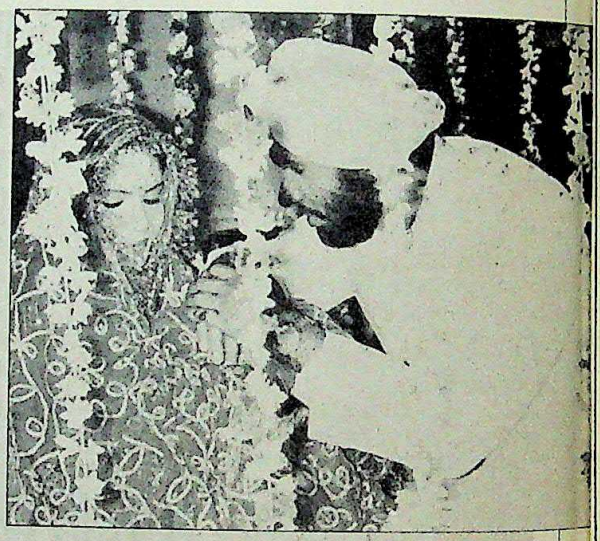
Doordarshan seems to have finally got the message. As a result, *Teesra Mandir*, the telefilm based on a story by Revati Saran Sharma, was given the 11 p.m. slot on Delhi's second channel. Last month M.K. Raina's *Nirnay* was also screened during the same cultural ghetto—the insomniac's hour.

However, now Mandi House seems to be pushing the Punjab serials back on to the front burner. The big step is B.R. Chopra's 16-episode series, *Chunni*, which began last fortnight on the national network. Cleverly, Doordarshan has used this serial—most of whose cast is from the phenomenally successful *Mahabharata*—as the Trojan horse to get into prime time Sunday mornings. And Doordarshan seems to have put a lot of its Punjab eggs in this basket: the entire serial cost them nearly Rs 50 lakh.

Not surprisingly, most people in Punjab believe the Government is wasting both its money and time. "The alienation graph, like the crime graph in the Punjab, continues to record new highs," says Bakhshish Singh Johal, a lecturer in Punjab University.

What irks viewers in Punjab about these programmes is their distance from the truth: some of the characters are too good to be true. According to a senior I&B official, the Government wanted to get across the message that Hindus and Sikhs were not different from one another—a belief that had grown after the 1984 riots. However, the over-emphasis on their amity has, in fact, proved counter-productive. "It becomes embarrassing if one is sitting with a Sikh friend," says Sachin, a young chartered accountant living in Chandigarh.

The strategy of applying a "healing touch" to the trouble-torn state has completely misfired and alienation among the people has grown.



Still from *Chunni*: building few bridges

Initially, Mandi House turned to writers and film makers in Punjab for these programmes. It hoped to, through this medium, correct the "distortions created by the terrorists". But then Punjabi intellectuals and performing artists started being terrorised, says a senior Doordarshan official. "Our Jalandhar television station got many warnings."

B.R. Chopra's brief was much the same: to show that any division between the two communities is bad. He prefers to be more oblique. "This way the audience is more emotionally involved," he explains. Instead of a division in the country, Chopra uses the division in a family. Instead of a misguided people, he uses a misguided young man. Moreover, Chopra would rather sing it than say it: there are eight songs in this mini-saga which is quite literally a soap opera. He also hopes to show through this simple story how futile and unnecessary misunderstandings between the Hindus and Sikhs really are.

One of the more popular television serials on Punjab was Lekh Tandon's *Dil Dariya*, already telecast. And he will be following that up with his forthcoming serial, *Doosra Kewal* which shows how ultimately humanity always triumphs over revenge. Tandon believes that Doordarshan's endeavours have not been as fruitful as expected because of all the sermons made by the film producers who hastily jumped on to the Punjab bandwagon. "The moment you say Hum Ek hain, what you are really saying is Hum Do Hain...?"

Another major reason why these instant Punjab films are not working is that most of the producers have ended up making *masala* films. Into the cauldron have gone smugglers, terrorists, star-crossed lovers, infiltrators from across the border and some *bale-bale* folksy stuff. Writer Amrita Pritam, who has written the story for the forthcoming TV serial, *Rishte*, maintains the situation in Punjab is far too complex for this hold-all approach. She suggests that film makers take one aspect at a time. In *Rishte* she sticks to the human level: a Hindu family brings up the baby of a Sikh soldier as a Sikh and their own son as a Hindu.

Although Pritam does not believe that such films will have any quick results, she, like Chopra and Tandon, is convinced that in the long run they will serve their purpose. Meanwhile, the Punjab bandwagon trundles on until the money runs out.

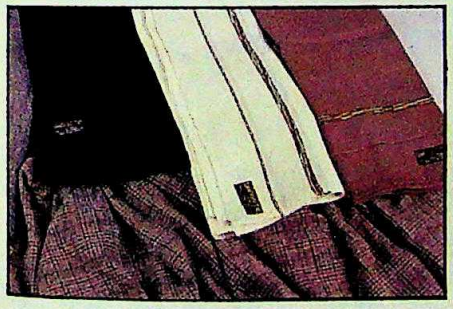
—MADHU JAIN

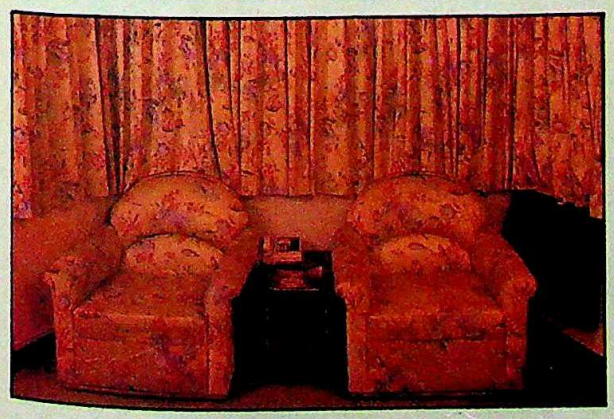
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

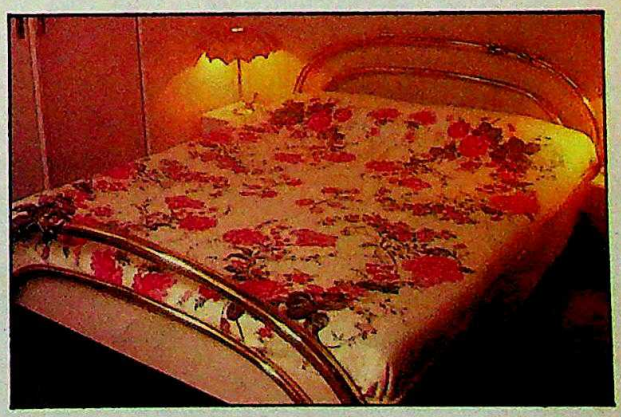
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

A beautiful world of hand woven classics

Banarsi silk sarees, stoles, and dress material, Lucknovi chikankari sarees, kurtas, salwar suits and kurta pyjama sets. Handwoven tapestry, bed covers and table linen. Woollen shawls and tweeds from Almora.







GANGOTRI

U.P. EXPORT CORPORATION LTD.

SHOWROOMS AT : • New Delhi, Baba Kharak Singh Marg, Tel. : 343559. • Bombay, WTC Cuffe Parade, Tel. : 2871187 • Calcutta, Lindsay Street, Tel. : 245714. • Bangalore, Residency Road, Tel. : 572655 • Hyderabad, Abid Road, Tel. : 603860 • Bhopal, Hamidiya Road, Tel. : 75890 • Allahabad, M.G. Road, Tel. : 603860 • Lucknow, Hazrat Ganj, Tel. : 244377, Aminabad, Tel. : 244362 • Kanpur, Swaroop Nagar, Tel. : 294172 • Nagpur, Mound Road, Tel. : 533221 • Agra, Taj Compound, Tel. : 360172 • Ahmedabad, KCC, Panjrapole, Chaurastha (opening shortly).

REGD. OFFICE : B-27, SARVODAYA NAGAR, KANPUR-208 005.

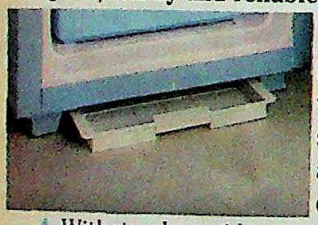
naa/UPEC-90

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

KEEP AWAY FROM THE HERD

Get yourself something unique. Like the Allwyn. Quiet, sturdy and reliable.



▲ Allwyn compressor with Hitachi technology for silent and trouble-free working. ▲ Tilting bottle racks for easy sliding of bottles. ▲ An efficient, quick and non-messy self-draining system of defrost. Leading to an automatic re-start. ▲ Withstands a wide range of voltage fluctuations. (170V to 250V) ▲ Allwyn- Pioneers of refrigeration in India. Available in 165 litres single and 165,300 and 380 litres double door models. Comes with a seven year warranty. And the choice of an additional seven year protection contract. ▲ ISI

You can be sure now, that Allwyn will keep you away from the herd.

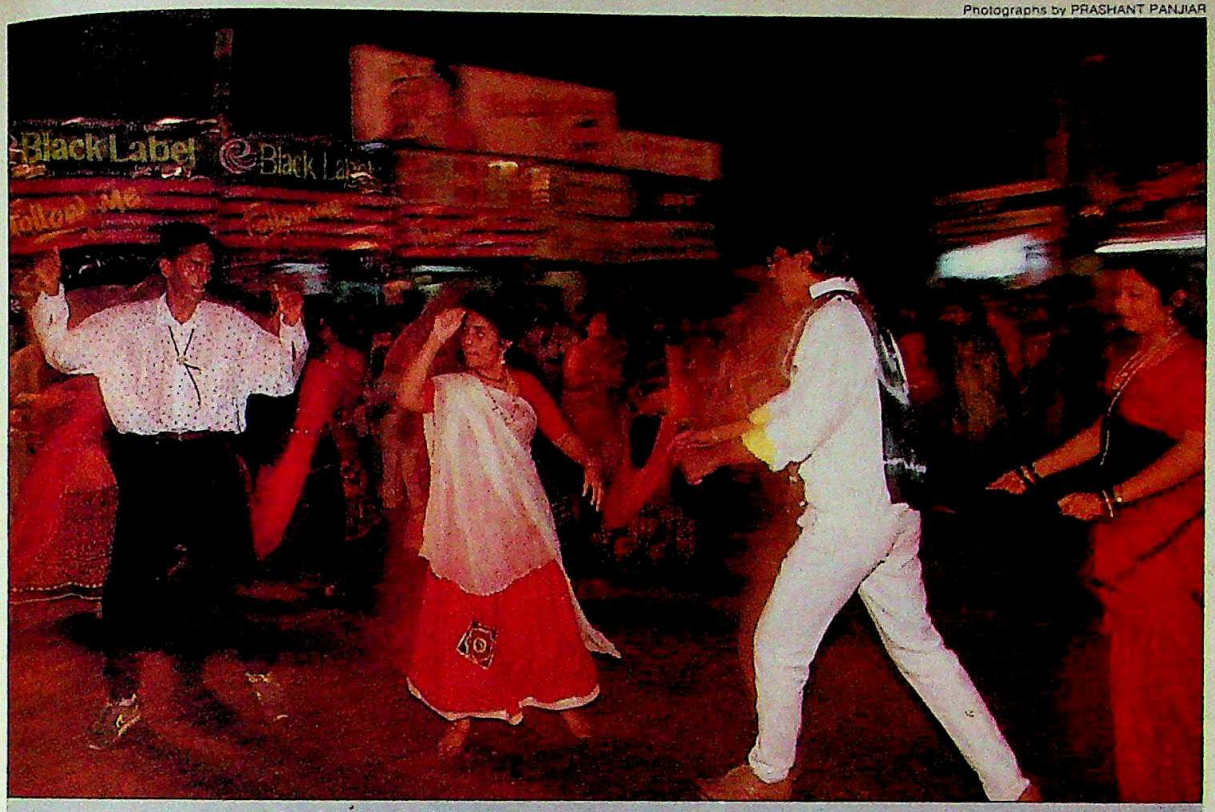
ALLWYN
REFRIGERATORS
QUIET · STURDY · FAITHFUL

Mudra : H HAL

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Photographs by PRASHANT PANJIAR



Garba dancing in full swing in Ahmedabad: swaying to a modern beat

GARBA DANCE

Twisting Tradition

The traditional Navratri dance has been commercialised

THE rain is no dampener. It is an hour before midnight on September 26, the seventh day of Navratri festivities in Gujarat. A gaggle of colourfully-clad young girls and boys are praying to the rain to go away and come again another day, preferably after Navratri. Today they have to do the garba.

Then comes the welcome call for the drums to roll and the crowd of feet begin to go tap-tap-tap. "*Chalo Aaje Aapde Jharmar Garba Ma Jodaiye*" (Come, let us join in the garba of drizzle). And as the band starts playing, boys in trousers or dhotis and girls in their exciting ghaghra-cholis start swaying to the beat. The great garba dancing has begun. It will last till dawn breaks over Ahmedabad.

Five years ago the youngsters would perhaps have thought better than to dance in the drizzle. But this day they have a stake in the show—they have bought entry tickets for Rs 12 each to dance the garba at the Dreamland Party Plot, Ahmedabad. Five years back the garba dancing was not so much of a commercial razzmatazz as it is now. Then it was organised on a small scale in residential areas.

But now garba dancing has hit the big time. "One day off means a loss of Rs 30,000 to me. So I have to run the show, come what may," says the bespectacled Arun Thaker, 27, one of the many garba organisers who have sprung up in Ahmedabad and other major towns in the state.

Thaker is one of the pioneers of this new business. Managing director of Shakti Communications Pvt Ltd, he was intelligent enough to spot four years ago that Gujarat didn't have much of a night life and that the garbas had enough potential to provide all the entertainment. His reckoning is that Navratri is the official permit for boys and girls to mingle till late at night. He began planning for the Navratri six months ago by designing the area of the show. He hired two plots located next to each other. His Rs 12 ticket ensured entry to the simultaneous garba shows at both places.

Thaker's is just one of the private firms who have transformed the traditional garba into a slick, commercial proposition. The private companies hire private and government-owned land in posh areas and a good orchestra. The shows are given crowd-pulling titles like *Navrangi Navratri, Raas Garba Ramzat, Radiamdi Raat Ni Rang Tali*. Putting everything together can often cost the organiser about a lakh of rupees.

It is not just the name and all the hoopla that pull in the crowds. It has the weight of tradition and legend behind it. Garba and its offshoots like dandia raas and garbi are folk dances which have essentially grown from the shakti cult. The word garba is derived from the Sanskrit work *garbh* (womb)

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Singapore. The world's most colourful city.

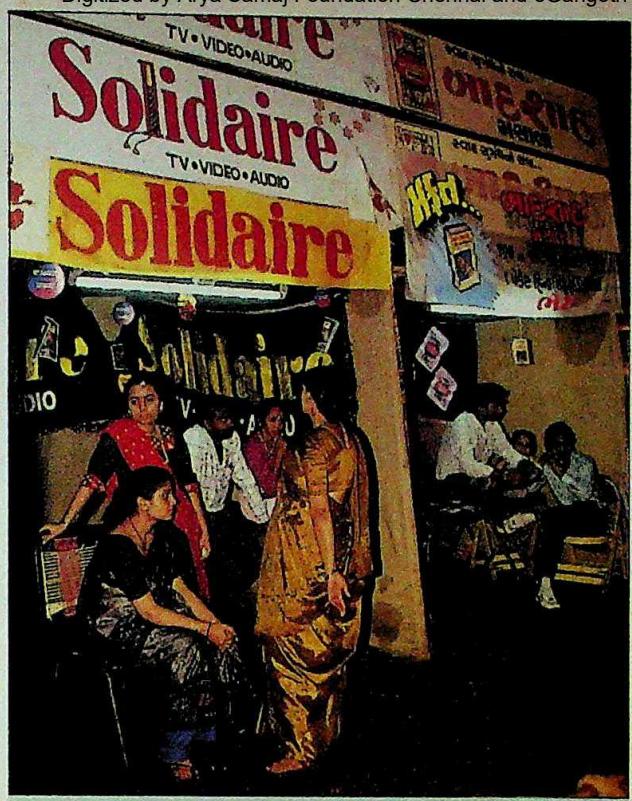
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

and in ancient times women used to do the garba dance during the nine days of the Navratri to invoke the goddess Amba and Ranaderandel, the wife of the god Surya and seek their blessings to have a child and also for the well-being and prosperity of their families.

Traditionally, a garba is done only by women and the garbi only by men. A dandia raas can be done by both men and women or separately with the help of dandias (*dandas* or small wooden sticks). The dancing is in keeping with the natya shastra which has said that the best way of making an offering to the gods and goddesses is through the dance. Says Smitaben Shastri, an expert on folk dances: "Basically these are powerful forms of praying and invoking the goddesses."

But few nowadays recall these legends nor is any effort made to inform the younger generation about the evolution of the garba dance. All attention is on making money while the music lasts. During the nine days of garba dancing held in connection with Navratri, resourceful organisers can rake in a profit of up to Rs 2 lakh on an investment of Rs 1.50 lakh. Apart from the entry tickets, advertisement space is also sold. "Ahmedabadis are crazy after garba," says Ajay Pandya, 22, who led a bunch of college students who organised a successful garba in the city's posh drive-in area. Another selling tactic used with much success by Thaker this time consisted of discount coupons for textile, jewellery, footwear, handicraft and tailors shops.

Yet it was not all music and money. Many organisers ended up with burnt fingers and empty pockets. Gujarati and Hindi film actor Jayendra Mehta's *Navrangi Navratri* held at the Silverline Party Plot wound up in two days due to a poor turn-out. He had hired the well-known Seven Star orchestra and even spent Rs 25,000 on advertising his show. His loss: about Rs 75,000. "I committed the mistake of choosing the wrong spot where only the lower middle class people reside," he said. Another organiser who offered a cup of ice-cream free with every entry ticket of Rs 10, also had to close down three days after the Navratri celebrations started.



Hoardings at a garba show: cut-throat competition

WITH competition hotting up, music has acquired a new importance in the garba shows. Earlier only instruments like the ramdhol and tabla were used to back up the singer. Now the rotto drums, rhythm box and the *timbani* are an essential part of every band. Moreover, singers are increasingly setting traditional garbas to Hindi film tunes much to the disgust of the purists. "The so-called professionals have dealt a body blow to the traditional garba," complains Monal Patel, a dress designer.

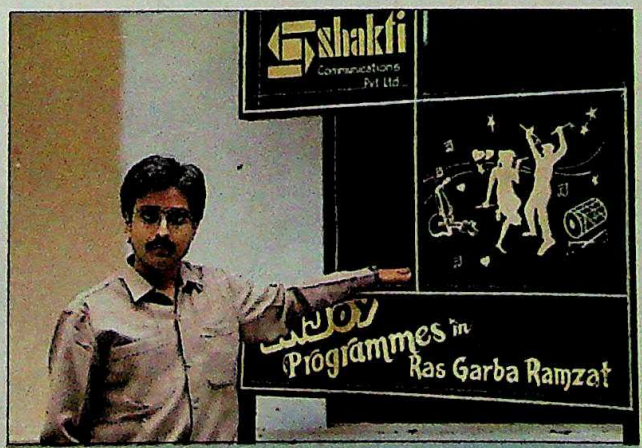
Undoubtedly, the religious significance of the Navratri and the garba as a dance form is getting diluted due to the increasing commercialisation. The original poems written by scholars, which used to be sung by the performers in praise of the goddesses, are also being submerged in the amplified disco beats. There no longer seems to be the traditional distinction between the garba and the garbi dances.

The occasion has now become more of a nine-day freak-out excuse for youngsters of Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Surat and Rajkot. The young turn out in exotic outfits not just for worshipping mother goddess Amba, but to revel. For most of them who do not have the opportunity or social sanction to spend a night out dancing, these jamborees provide the perfect outlet.

A garba show now virtually serves the purpose of a discotheque. A 14-year old boy committed suicide recently because his parents refused to let him go out at night. Admits S.R. Vora, a marketing consultant to garba organisers: "Navratri festival is a licence for young girls to stay out till late at night. I have a young daughter whom I can't stop from going out at night."

If the way Navratri was celebrated this year is any indication whatsoever, the young in Gujarat are not too bothered by the commercialisation or the vulgarisation of the dance form. For them, if it's Navratri, it's time to dance all night.

—UDAY MAHURKAR

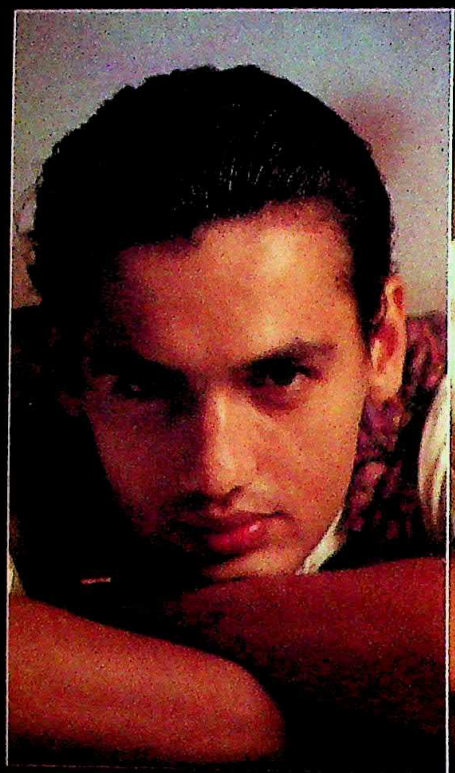


Garba organiser Arun Thaker: cashing in

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

A M

Theres a magic in her touch that just coming



ESCORTS

HEADSTART ESC

M AND HIS PASSION

coming through. she's- the one who stole my heart away.

YAMAHA

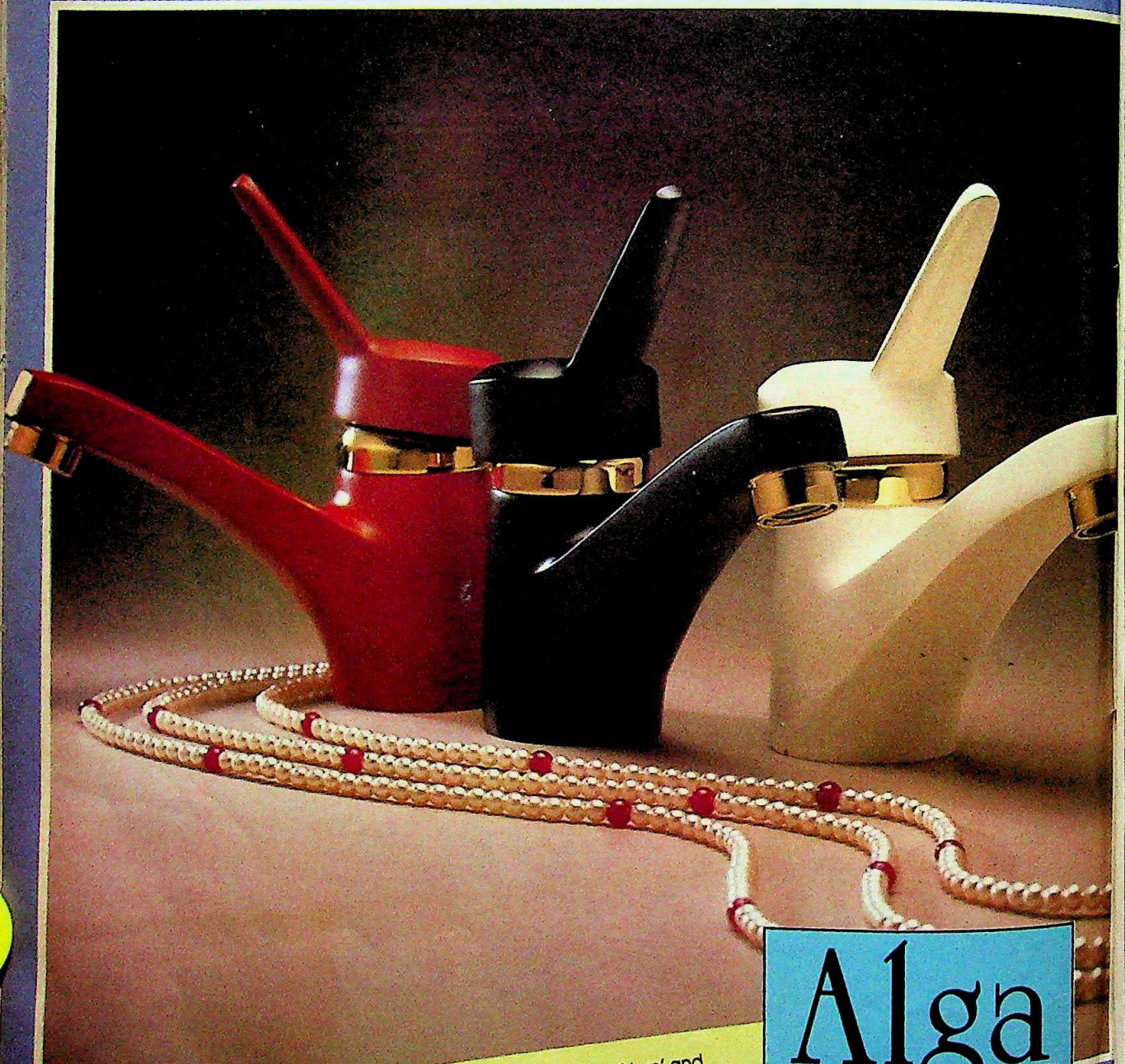
RX100

THE INTERNATIONAL FAVOURITE

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

RED ■ BLACK ■ WHITE

WAS NEVER SO EXCITING



Alga SERIES

A dazzling new collection of single lever mixers from NOVA ■ Unique 'half-turn' and foam-flow' concept ■ A special range of colours ■ Red, Black and Ivory white with glittering gold combination ■ Unique silk finish quite unlike anything you have ever seen or touched ■ The choice is yours ■

ESSCO SANITARY APPLIANCES, DELHI – INDIA

NOVA • BATHROOM JEWEL •

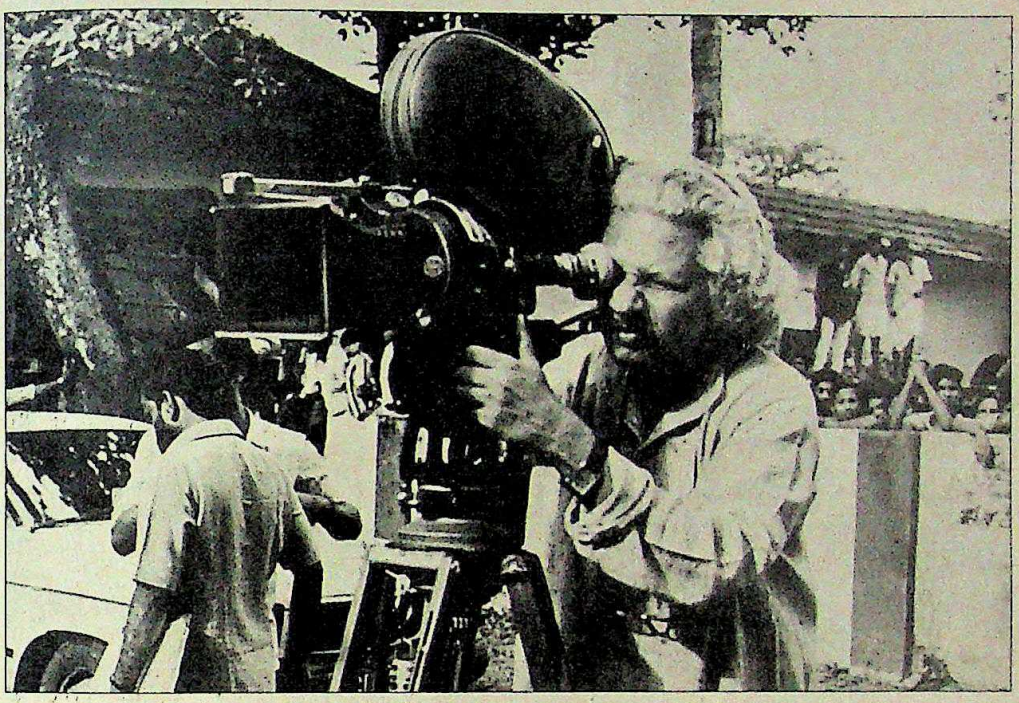
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

ADOOR GOPALAKRISHNAN

Czar of Celluloid

The master film-maker is at the pinnacle of his powers



▲ Adoor: master craftsman

HIS cinema imitates the way he works. The frames are often tantalisingly slow but lead the viewer to hitherto untrodden zones of cinematic splendour. In the two decades since he debuted with *Swayamvaram* in 1972, Adoor Gopalakrishnan has made just five more films. But each of them has left its indelible mark on the viewers' psyche and on film history.

Not that Adoor spends his time wandering the wilderness of intellectual frigidity looking for that powerful image or icon that will form the pulsebeat of his next masterpiece. He is constantly at work, nitpicking for details that lesser film makers wouldn't even have thought of. Perhaps an old habit he picked up in his first job as investigator in the National Sample Survey. For example, to get the audiography in his latest film *Mathilukal* right Adoor accompanied the sound recordist to the woods and spent days patiently recording squirrel squeaks. And he read boring jail manuals to find out the thickness of the chain that is used to tie up prisoners. Explains he: "My films are like social documents and need to be authentic." So he ensures that every frame goes through his hands. Like rough granite through the careful hands of a master sculptor.

Adoor's films have the touch of a master who subdues as powerful and wayward a medium as the movie camera and forces it to track a story and shed light into hidden recesses. No wonder his films have all been widely acclaimed. *Mathilukal* (Walls, 1989) won the Fiprasci award "for its use of filmic language and psychological analysis" at the recent 47th International Film Festival at Venice. It also won the UNICEF best film prize "for its warmth and sincerity, simplicity and involvement in portraying the idea of freedom, love for humanity and its profound concern for human dignity".

Accolades are nothing new for this director. *Swayamvaram* won eight national and state awards apart from the ones for the best film and best director. The film portrayed middle class struggles and its moral crisis against the background of unemployment and poverty. It is about a young couple who defy social norms only to find themselves checkmated by harsh reality.

The next film *Kodiyettam* (Ascent, 1977) came five years later. It was about a simpleton who wandered around the village, flying kites with the children but who gradually became aware of his responsibilities. It was a daring move to cast Gopi as the moron but the anti-hero went on to win the

▲ *Mukhamukham*: sensitive direction

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

national award for best acting and it launched him into a great career in Malayalam films.

Even in his tireless and brave effort at reflecting reality as Indian cinema has seldom seen, Adoor did not forget to give his films a touch of humour and then sit back and watch the incredulous viewers wonder. In *Swayamvaram* there is a little boy from the neighbourhood who goes around driving an imaginary bus and after telling a piece of news to the heroine reverses his bus, then shifts gears and drives off. Gopi in *Kodiyettam* marvels at the speed of the passing truck which has splashed dirt on his new dress.

Elipathayam (Rat-trap, 1981) evolved when he kept wondering why people did not react naturally to things around them. Was it to avoid bitter truths that they pretended they did not exist? Looking at such an attitude helped him create a character called Unni who is gripped by paranoia, unable to face reality. Says Adoor: "If one has to create an aesthetic cinematic experience that enriches one's being, one has to go beyond the story."

In film after film, Adoor has strayed into the depths of his characters laying open their complexities. One of the reasons why he won the prestigious British Film Institute award for *Elipathayam* nearly two decades after Satyajit Ray won it for *Apur Sansar*. *Anantaram* (1987) is one such film about the alienation of a young teenager who grows up in loneliness. His life is torn between illusion and reality forcing the viewer to go through the same process.

Elipathayam was a stylish film on the plight of a family that inherited a feudal system and imbibed its vestiges but was unable to support itself as the system was going through its death pangs. Used to a life of luxurious lethargy they could not get up and move. They slide into claustrophobia and schizophrenia. Using rats as a metaphor, he unfolded the story in a series of superb images. "Gopalakrishnan constructed the film like a cinematic rondo making every composition and camera movement count," said eminent critic Tony Rayns.

HIS *Mukhamukham* (Face to Face, 1984) which won 10 national and state awards dealt with a firebrand communist trade union leader who suddenly disappeared to surface only 10 years later as an alcoholic totally worn out. His followers were frustrated seeing him in that state. Mysteriously he gets murdered and political parties try to make capital out of it. "This was the first attempt in our cinema to get inside the situation of a willed and committed revolutionary and depict with masterly imagination and invention what happened there under duress of a harsh and interminable battle against a formidable system," wrote noted critic Iqbal Masud.

Acquiring such mastery was not easy. Fortunately for him he grew up in a milieu where kathakali and other art forms flourished. His family patronised these arts. He watched and he learnt. When he was eight he acted in his first play, at 10 he wrote his first play and by the time he was 20, he had produced as many plays. A sensitive creator was in the making.

In college he did science and later went in for a diploma in public administration, politics and economics. Then there was the stint at the National Sample Survey. A merit scholarship took him to the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune, in 1962. He graduated with a gold medal in 1965. It took Adoor six years to conceive and create *Swayamvaram*. Thereon, his creative genius flourished.

A reason why his films are a long time in the making is that Adoor himself conjures up the script and looks after all the attendant details including audiography and editing. He is no mean reader and his favourite reading includes Malayalam authors Vaikom Mohammad Basheer who wrote *Mathilukal*, O.V. Vijayan, Thakazhi Sivasankara Pillai and renowned writers like Milan Kundera, Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Jean Genet. He's written *Cinemayude Lokam* (The World of Cinema), also an award winner.

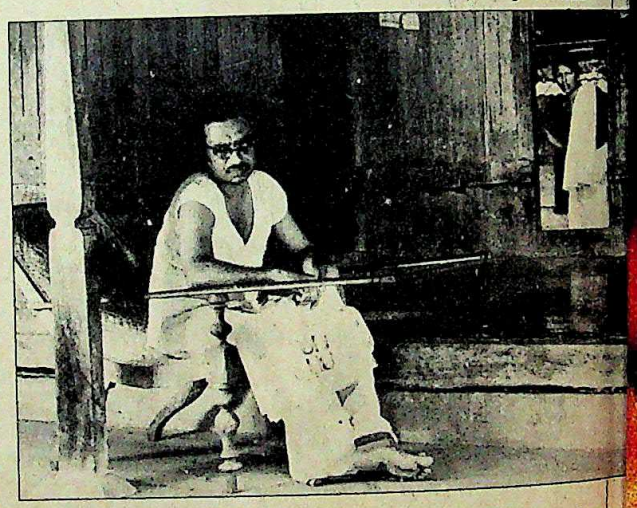
Adoor is now undoubtedly at the height of his powers, in total command of all his faculties, matured and confident after years of hard work and reading. He is still the willing learner, though. The unassuming, humble kurta-clad, long-haired master was recently seen with his wife Sunanda and only daughter Aswati, 16, joining the queue in Trivandrum to see a film society screening of Akira Kurosawa's mighty movie *Ran*.

How much of the craft of Kurosawa (among his list of top directors including Ray, Ghatak, Sen, Yasujiro Ozu, Bresson) he has imbibed is debatable but Adoor's maturity and mastery can be seen reflected in *Mathilukal* especially the scene when the protagonist (Mammootty) leans against the wall of the prison yard as the camera moves in and in the distance the prison bell tolls as a convict for whom he had just made tea is hanged.

In such scenes do his films live.

—RAMESH MENON

▲ *Anantaram:* going into untrodden zones



▼ *Elipathayam:* incredible attention to detail

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

No ban, no challenge... just a burning desire.

ONIDA. Neighbour's envy. Owner's pride.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Avenues:O:434 90

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Our calling card has always opened doors for us.

Perhaps it was the famous first name.

Or the reputation for skilled engineering.

Or perhaps it was merely the smart, well-informed salesperson – who came knocking at the right door.

Over the years, Kirloskar Pneumatic began diversifying into new areas. To the widest range of pneumatic power products we added air-conditioning & industrial refrigeration equipment, mobile air-conditioning units, together with a system engineering & turnkey project cell, and hydraulic power transmissions.

Which means we've become much more than just a "pneumatic" company.

Our markets today are much wider.

And deeper. A company which has been buying our compressors for years, now also happens to be a customer for a turnkey project. Or for transmissions.

You guessed right. Our customers are also diversifying.

REGIONAL/AREA OFFICES • AHMEDABAD **Tel. 460028** • BOMBAY **Tel. 220417** • BANGALORE **Tel. 210203** • CALCUTTA **Tel. 266948** • DELHI **Tel. 6432584** • HYDERABAD **Tel. 235868** • LUCKNOW **Tel. 244367** • MADRAS **Tel. 866999** • VISHAKHAPATNAM **Tel. 65183**

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

A Rs.75 crore company surely needs a bigger introduction.

We no longer know all the doors at which knock, leave alone present cards.

And if you've read this far, chances are you're one such customer.

You know that our business has grown to 75 crores, not only because of the endary Kirloskar engineering strength, but because of ready and efficient product port.

A reason why our machines have been ployed by every major industry or project, over India, for the last 30 years.

And we're accessible. Call us anywhere in India and we'll be there.

Faster than you can say 'Open Sesame'.

KIRLOSKAR PNEUMATIC CO. LTD.

Hadapsar Industrial Estate,
Pune 411 013.
Tel.: 670133/670341

Kirloskar

The name doesn't say it all

DENT REPRESENTATIVES : JAIPUR **Tel. 68263** • PUNE **Tel. 670130** • INDORE • RAIPUR • RANCHI

PRATIBHA-90-759

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Golden moments. McDowell moments

Unmistakably No.1... McDowell's

McDowell's
THE SODA WITH SPIRIT

Main ... ion, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Dangers of Detente

THE cold war is over. The US and the USSR have officially pronounced that nuclear war between them would have no winners and would jeopardise the planet's survival. Thus nuclear war or anything which has a high probability of leading to it cannot be used for the achievement of national foreign policy objectives by the big two. However, circumstances which threaten their very survival may lead to one of them resorting to a nuclear first strike in desperation. Hence they are unlikely to give up a deterrent nuclear second strike retaliatory capability for now. Nuclear weapon stockpiles which are estimated to be about 300 times the requirement will reduce as confidence builds up. A ban on nuclear weapons may also ensue.

In this heady ambience, many analysts in our country somewhat euphorically extrapolated it to a likely subcontinental detente and, till a few months ago, recommended largely reduced defence spending, hoping that by example we could hasten a regional 'entente cordiale'. Then with Pakistan's highly increased moral and material support to Indian insurgents, the pendulum swung the other way with much talk of war. Both reactions indicate too much 'heart' and too little 'head' in the analytical mix.

Paradoxically, with the end of the cold war, big power detente has swung the pendulum towards an increase in the freedom of belligerence and nuclear exchange between the Third World countries.

When the cold war was on, the hold of the superpowers was pretty strong on their client states, and on states dependent on them for military, economic and political support. In the event of any brinkmanship by such states, they could be reined in by their superpower mentor. If Third World countries not in their orbits started a local war, the superpowers generally took up for the opposing sides almost by knee-jerk reaction. Fears of this leading to a big power nuclear exchange led both the big boys, jointly in many cases and with UN assistance in some, to bring the war to a quick end. Of course, there was the odd exception like the Iran-Iraq war which was permitted to drag on. But then, that was a series of blitzkriegs interspersed by long 'sitzkriegs': a war which was neither likely to be decisive, nor leading to a change in the regional balance of power.

The big two generally kept off what was tacitly accepted as the other's turf, moved very cautiously for gaining advantage in areas of the globe where neither side's interest was so marked, and competed freely for influence elsewhere. Now, with the end of the cold war, and the big two abjuring war as a policy option, much of their leverage with erstwhile dependent states has been eroded. The almost automatic linkage between warring Third World nations and the superpowers has gone. Any nuclear conflict in the Third World no longer has a high probability of escalation into a nuclear exchange between the big two. So, any hard-headed analysis would indicate that, paradoxically, big power detente has indeed increased the freedom of belligerence of the lesser fry.

Conventional hostilities between countries that have, or assumed to have, nuclear weapon capability can also easily turn nuclear. This is because, though the damage in absolute terms will be considerable to both the belligerents, at the expected level of nuclear weapon use, there would be no danger to the world as a whole. Thus the logic of nuclear war being neither fightable nor winnable in the case of the superpowers, regretfully does not translate into a similar conclusion in the case of small nuclear powers. This fact normally escapes the average Indian security analyst, who depends on predigested western wisdom for his punditry. Nevertheless, these two facts have to be cranked into the equation by countries like India, when they do their national security homework.

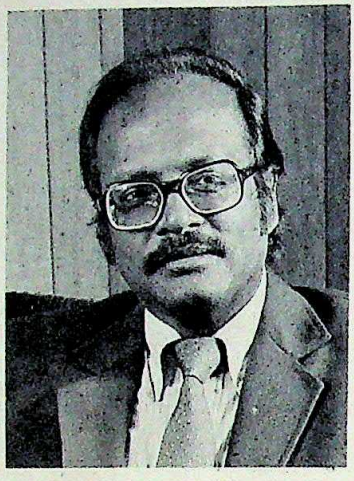
WHAT are the implications for us? The restraint that the US could exercise over Pakistan's brinkmanship vis-a-vis India, say in Kashmir, which might lead to war, would be less than before. Assuming that Pakistan has a nuclear weapon capability (any practical strategic planner in India has to make such an assumption), the threat of use of nukes before a conventional war breaks out, or during such hostilities, cannot be ruled out.

Here is a scenario: Pakistan steps up its interference in Kashmir, using 'Afghan mujahedin' and Pak Army 'volunteers' on leave, and makes its involvement almost overt. India's conventional strategy has always been, "Please do not try any such tricks in Kashmir; we would consider it war against India. We would not only defend locally, but retain the right to attack you at a time and place of our choosing. When we do that and the dust settles, you would be hurt much more than us. So please do not go too far in any 'covert' business in Kashmir".

This strategy may fail and Pakistan may escalate its interference in Kashmir, if it feels that India has not weaponised her nuclear capability, while Pakistan has. Or if it believes that the Indian leadership is too weak, divided, indecisive or timorous to go through with its strategy of conventionally attacking Pakistan, even though India may also have a clandestine stockpile of nuclear weapons. Pakistan therefore issues the following statement: "What is happening in Kashmir is an uprising of the people for self-determination: do not confuse the issue for the world by blaming it on Pakistani aggression and use it as an excuse to attack Pakistan. If you do, we will use all means at our disposal to defeat you. If there is extraordinary damage, the onus will be on you." Will India go through with her declared conventional strategy? These are questions that seek urgent answers.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



" Our accent will be on high technology as well as generation of sustained cash flows."

Speech by Dr. Vinay Bharat Ram, Chairman and Managing Director at the Annual General Meeting of DCM Limited on September 21, 1990 at New Delhi.

NOTE : This does not purport to be a record of the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

s and Gentlemen,
tend to you a very warm and cordial
me. The Directors' Report and the
ed Accounts of the undivided Company
e period ending 31st March, 1990 have
with you for some time and, with your
ission, I will take them as read.
e year 1989-90 has been eventful on
us counts. Your Company has been
ganised into 4 Companies by virtue of a
me Arrangement approved by the
holders, creditors and as sanctioned by
lon'ble Delhi High Court by its order
16.4.1990. The reorganisation has come
ffect from 1.4.1990.
n happy to say that your Company has
Board a new team of Directors who are
hinent in their own fields and men of
ling. Furthermore, I am privileged and
ured to be the Chairman & Managing
tor of your 102-year old company and I
ve that with your support and
eration I shall do justice to this office.
9-90 has been a tumultous year. We
witnessed a change of Government and
avals within the country as well as other
of the world. The recent Gulf crisis has
d yet another dimension to our
omic problems.
e question is, will India have the
tness to face all these challenges? Let us
at the record of the 80s. We were able to
tand the impact of the worst drought of
entury in 1987, thanks to the enlightened
ies on the agricultural front. The
strial sector between 1986 and 1990 has
n at the rate of 8.5% with the result that
verall growth rate of GDP has averaged
over 5%. Furthermore, it is creditable
he inflation rates during this period
ined in the 'single digit' range–a rare
omenon among developing countries.
e the balance of trade has been negative
ghout, the export performance of the
hree years did help to narrow the defecit
e thus placing a zero deficit target within
ealm of possibility.
ven our entrepreneurial tradition and
ical talent this heritage should enable
become major players in the world
ets. Having said this, however, we
ld realise that this heritage can be
ndered away in the absence of dynamic
rship and a sense of purpose. The Gulf
is but one in a series of numerous crisis
we are facing. The Government in this
try owes it to its people to steer us out of
is being increasingly perceived as an
ntrollable situation.
vertheless what will be of considerable
est to this gathering is the phenomenal
th of the capital market in the country.
otal capital issues between the Sixth Plan and the Seventh Plan increased from Rs. 3,500 crores to Rs. 26,000 crores. In 1989-90 alone the new capital issues by joint stock companies went up to Rs. 6,000 crores from Rs. 3,000 crores in the previous year. This growth reflects the confidence of the shareholder community in joint stock companies and underscores their risk taking profile across the length and breadth of the country. Doubtless this trend is fortified by the enormous growth of the portfolio investment represented by mutual funds now floated by banks and institutions.

The gradual privatisation of public sector companies as well as opening up certain basic sectors of the economy to private initiative will add further momentum to the growth of the capital market.

Your company has responded positively to many of the changes described above. It has accomplished a complicated restructuring of its business in an efficient and dignified manner. This in no small measure reflects the values your company has stood by over the last 100 years. I assure you that these values and traditions will continue to remain the guide-post of DCM.

On the business front our accent will be on high technology as well as generation of sustained cash flows so that the investor is assured of a healthy return on his investments. Naturally, this implies the efficient running of our existing operations as well as a perpetual search for new areas of growth. Our interest as a company now lies in the fields of Electronics, Engineering, Textile spinning and Real Estate. At the same time the company will continue to have a major interest in SRF and DCM Toyota both of which are dynamic and profitable enterprises.

Now a few words about the company's existing operations.

We have been pioneers in the Computer industry. Ever since 1972 we have launched a continuous stream of new products in the market. This period coincided with the rapid growth of the computer industry in India which now stands at Rs. 1,700 crores. Till 1986 we were among the top three companies in the industry. Thereafter there were certain set backs which required a major change of strategy. Changes in this direction have been initiated. Consequently we launched the world's first 80486-chip based super-minicomputer in 1989. In the current year we hope to build on this thrust both domestically and abroad. The backbone of this operation is its strong R & D team. A new modern manufacturing facilty is proposed to be set up at a site on the border of Delhi.

Our engineering unit at Ropar in Punjab has established itself as a leading producer of automotive castings in the country. It supplies sophisticated thin walled castings to all the major tractor manufacturers and is the single largest supplier of engine block castings to Maruti Udyog. It is also producing pattern equipment for tanks and armoured vehicles for defence. It is at present in the process of doubling its capacity for castings as well as diversifying into proof machining.

DCM's Real Estate Project in the heart of Delhi has been in the offing since 1983. It encompasses 63 acres of land to be used for flatted factories and residential accommodation. This project has the support of 12 unions and 6,000 workers with whose cooperation the old Delhi Cloth Mills unit was closed in 1989. Thereafter clearance for redevelopment of this area according to the Master Plan of 1962 has been sought and granted in principle. This process hopefully will be complete in all respects in the near future. The project will add a major dimension to DCM by paving the way for productive investment in new growth areas.

One of the positive offshoots of the closure of Delhi Cloth Mills is the availability of 33,000 spindle Spinning capacity of fairly recent vintage. The shifting of this capacity to our Hissar complex is under way. Considering the sustained boom in the spinning industry it should be a profitable operation.

This delineates the business profile of your company. We are confident that with the resources at our command, the values which we cherish and the drive and energy embodied in the company, we shall be able to accomplish the mission of high and sustained growth.

Before I close, I would like to convey my sincere thanks to all our employees for the devoted manner in which they have worked throughout the year; the Financial Institutions and our Bankers for their co-operation; the Government of India and the various State Governments for their support and encouragement; and the most important of all, the unstinting support of our shareholders.

Thank you.

THE DCM GROUP

IN PERFECT SHAPE FOR THE FUTURE.

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Skewed Planning

GRASS WITHOUT ROOTS

By BUNKER ROY

THE trouble with making rash promises is that after a government comes to power it needs a respectable institution to justify why those promises have to be broken. In the case of this government the job seems to have been given to the Planning Commission. The Approach Paper to the Eighth Plan truly reflects the confusion and conflict of interests between parties, individuals, and of course ideologies (whatever that means today).

If social transformation is the goal of this government the approach paper will be remembered for what it does not contain. To bring about social transformation, it is necessary to make the administrative machinery accountable to the people (no mention in the paper); reduce the dependence of the community on the Government (no mention); upgrade and use rural skills to boost self-reliance (no mention); contain and curb waste and leakages (no mention); strengthen the Minimum Wages Act to ensure the right to a wage before right to work (no mention); change the horrendous building code that prevents people from making their own houses with low-cost materials without having to conform to specifications (no mention).

The approach paper should give us a hint of the Government's thinking on vital issues that will be reflected in the Eighth Plan document. It is not clear what the planners call an alternative (spelt wrong in the document) model of development. If decentralisation and integration are what they call 'alternatives' then the toothless Panchayat Bill recently approved by this government is only going to make matters infinitely worse for the rural poor.

The approach paper however says nothing about the poll reforms this government has in mind. When there is nothing secret about the ballot—because the way individuals vote in villages is made public—how can the rural poor ever vote freely and fearlessly?

After all that build-up and suspense we had expected a better set of alternatives to come out of the Planning Commission. The planners talk of the resource problem; we would have expected them to suggest that the community pay for services instead of the handouts they have got used to. In any case they are already making payments under the table, so why not regularise these. But no such luck.

To prevent leakages, contain corruption and ensure better accountability we would have expected the Planning Commission to suggest that all financial resources flowing into a district be put into one kitty and then distributed to village panchayats. Today almost all departments bypass the office of the district collector. If governments also bypass the district imagine the chaos and indiscipline!

Today the manufacture of life-saving and basic drugs is under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers because the idea is for someone to make profit. With Gandhians sitting there, why didn't the Planning Commission suggest that it be brought under the Ministry of Health? Expensive drugs are made in this country but basic drugs for tuberculosis have to be imported. Why?

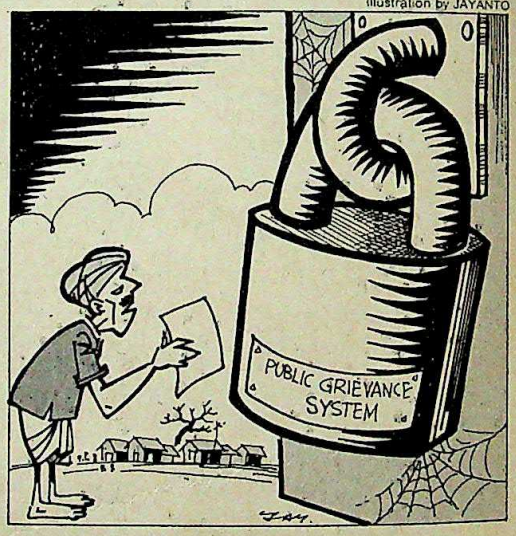
In spite of Devi Lal breathing fire about the need to change policies, in spite of his own man sitting in the Planning Commission, there is no mention about making a six-month stay in rural areas mandatory for agricultural scientists.

For Gandhians and activists-turned-planners who know the importance of taking principled stands even if it means incurring displeasure from official quarters, the approach paper is a fine example of fence-sitting. Let people build their own houses with low-cost materials—but do not tamper with the building code for that would make engineers unhappy. Let funds flow directly to the panchayats—but do not touch the corrupt administrative structure at the district level. Let the village elect (hire) their sarpanches and members but don't give them the right to recall (fire) them. Let there be integrated local planning—but let the compartmentalised structure of departments working in isolation remain. Talk of agricultural credit—but offer no economic justification of the social necessity of waiving loans.

Similarly, the solution offered to check migration is to develop small towns—not improve facilities in villages. The planners want to "undertake a close scrutiny of existing expenditures to accommodate new commitments", but take a soft stand on mihimising waste and plugging leakages.

A very tame document indeed.

Illustration by JAYANTO



The Approach Paper is an example of fence-sitting which reflects confusion and conflict of interests.

The author is director, The Social Work & Research Centre, Tilonia, Rajasthan

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Essma Woollen Shawls. Created from 100% pure wool. Combining the very latest international designs with rich Indian tradition.

ESSMA Shawls
Expressions of Elegance

ESSMA
makes you wish winter were a twelve month season

Woolmark
PURE NEW WOOL

3M-1440

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

"RISE, SIR LEGEND"

MRF CONGRATULATES SIR RICHARD HADLEE ON HIS KNIGHTHOOD

And on Indian roads, MRF Legend continues to be India's favourite car tyre.

Whichever field they're on, legends are recognised for their outstanding performances. On June 16th, 1990, Richard Hadlee became the only cricketer to be knighted while still on the field. Meanwhile, back in India, MRF Legend keeps proving itself on the toughest roads all over the country. Which just goes to show that once you have a legend, you have a winner.

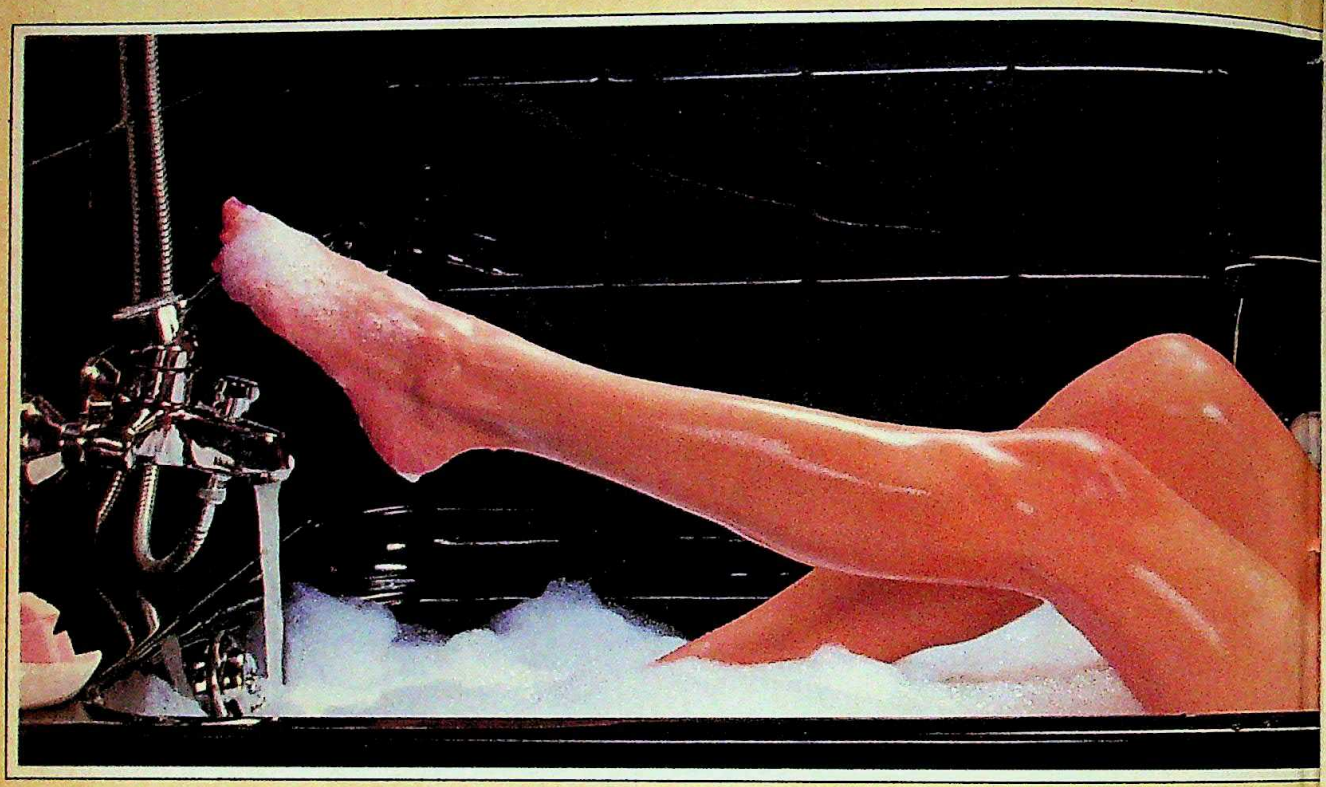
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

LINTAS M MRF FHP 216 2436

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



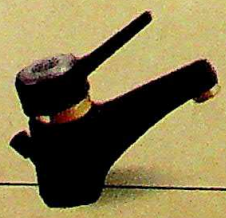
The Ranutrol Hansa Aqua Mixer. The world's most elegant way of mixing water, with pleasure.

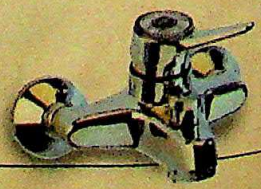
Flawless to the minutest detail. Functional adornments in the finest settings in over forty countries.

An exquisitely crafted range with the distinctly superior ceramic cartridge technology. Pioneered and perfected by Hansa Metallwerke AG of West Germany. Brought to India by the Ranutrol Group.

RANUTROL HANSA
AQUA MIXER
From Hansa Metallwerke AG, West Germany.

TECHNOLOGY QUALITY SERVICE RANUTROL GROUP





For a free booklet, write to : Auto Controls Pvt. Ltd. (A Ranutrol Group Company), Home Improvement Divn. **Corporate Office** ☐ F-85, Okhla Indl. Area, Phase - I, **New Delhi**-110 020. Tel : 683 6001. ☐ 114, 1st Fl., A2 Bldg., Shah & Nahar Indl. Est., Lower Parel, **Bombay** - 400 013. Tel : 492 0297. ☐ 5-1, Stephen Court, 18A, Park St., **Calcutta** - 700 016. Tel : 29 1755. ☐ A-4, 2nd Fl., Parsan Menere, 602, Anna Salai, **Madras** - 600 006. Tel : 86 7121. ☐ Natraj Complex, 2nd Fl., 90 Cubbon Road, Richmond Circle, **Bangalore** - 560 025. Tel : 21-2846. ☐ 303, 3rd Fl., Swapnalok Complex, 92/93, Sarojnidevi Road, **Secunderabad** - 500 003. Tel : 83 0438.

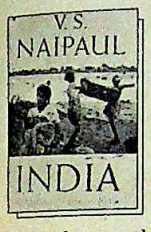
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

New Visions

An understanding look now

INDIA: A MILLION MUTINIES NOW
by V.S. NAIPAUL
Rupa & Co
Price: Rs 250; Pages: 521



INDIA hit Arthur Koestler in the face like 'a wet diaper'; a similar sensation of shock and revulsion greeted V.S. Naipaul in 1962 and 1976 as he retraced the steps of his indentured forebears, and tried to come to grips with the myriad frustrating realities of his ancestral land.

Naipaul on his own admission was fearful, with nerves set on edge; and the meetings resulted in high art and high animus. The fastidious brahmin of literary travel did not care to conceal his feelings: two acerbic, analytical and brilliant, but unsympathetic books were put out. The mother country responded in kind: rejecting its most celebrated living literary son (even if some generations removed) as a surface-skimmer, an intellect without a heart; one whose ways of looking had been so fashioned by the western eye as to make him blind to the soul of an ancient, enduring civilisation.

But reconciliation and synthesis mark the Hindu way of things; and with *India: A Million Mutinies Now*, these have come to Naipaul and India. Not that the country the Trinidad-born writer visited this time was any the less fraught with turmoil and destitution than before; on the contrary, as the title emblazons, the divisive crises now engulfing India are manifold.

What has changed, dramatically, is Naipaul's way of looking. This time he has seen India not as a wounded civilisation increasingly in decay, but as a fractured land that has been able to over the last hundred years, with steady acceleration, discover, define and regenerate itself. Not one to fall prey to easy assumptions, not one to be easily beguiled by the externals of things, Naipaul now finds he was guilty of these 27 years ago: guilty of noticing what the country lacked, even while he missed the extent to which it had been remade after centuries of oppression, 'its own equivalent of the Dark Ages'.

In this book, a far weightier tome than his earlier ones, Naipaul is more ear than quill: for pages on end the emblematic characters he has unearthed—little mutineers all: ranging from Shiv Sena chauvinists, to former Naxalites, reactionary Brahmins and active Sikh terrorists—narrate their stories in the first person; while the author waits for them to break for breath, so he can provide his diagnosis.

It is easy to get wrapped up in these various stories (religion, tradition, modernity fighting to find purchase in the individual) that make for the Indian kaleidoscope, but as easily the feeling grows that Naipaul is missing from the pages. (Uncharacteristic, and a sign perhaps of fatigue in the writer, which was even more in evidence in his last travel book *A Turn in the South*.) And it is only when the vintage Naipaul dis-

Naipaul: reconciliation and synthesis

section begins—acute, unsentimental, putting order to chaos, divining motives, finding patterns—that real value for money is forthcoming.

Though far from his best book (such appellations must be reserved for his fiction, for *Biswas* and *Enigma of Arrival*), *India: A Million Mutinies Now* is significant for though it discusses conflict and confusion it reads out a generous verdict. Too long has India been viewed as either squalor or exotica; this book paints a picture of a vital, regenerative land, grappling equally with awareness and anarchy. Others have sketched similar scapes, but this one is of particular importance for the signature it bears enjoys the finest currency in the literate world.

—TARUN J. TEJPAL

Raj Recall

A trivial autobiography

THE SUN IN THE MORNING
by M.M. KAYE
Viking: Distributed by Rupa & Co
Price: Rs 360; Pages: 450

SHE is Kipling's daughter all right. Figuratively speaking, and a bad reproduction at that. Clearly, the man who spawned a thousand Kims is M.M. Kaye's guru-muse in her best seller Raj pulp fiction, from *The Far Pavilions* to *Shadow of the Moon*. Ashton/Ashok in *Pavilions* is a 20th century update of the British-child-brought-up-in-India and in whom, the twain, the East and West have met and have a hard time separating.

And it's Kipling's shadow that falls across Kaye's syrupy autobiography. The octogenarian author sees herself as one of those nowhere people: white on the outside with a bit of brown on the inside.

Unfortunately, Raj nostalgia is at too high a tide here. India, Kaye writes, is like "Eden before the fall", paradise with a do-not-disturb sign. The glasses through which she sees the country and its rulers are so rosy that the result is chocolate box India. Brave and brilliant sahibs, their courageous memsahibs, hauntingly exquisite and nostalgia-dipped descriptions of Delhi and Simla, and quaint and cute Indians. The world of Indians, comprised largely of ayahs, malis, beestis, servants and the few odd friends is affectionately sketched but with such a broad, romantically myopic sweep that they remain just a hazy backdrop, not for a while focusing into three-dimensional people.

There is even a whiff of some of my best friends are Indian.... The romanticism comes tinged with racism. She recounts her shock on hearing Khan Sahib, a family friend, "calmly admitting to telling lies as if it did not matter at all.... It stood all my ideas of morality on their heads."

Kaye is scathing about those who denigrate the men who ruled Britannia. And she comes down particularly hard on E.M. Forster for his "virulent

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

attack on his own race".

But then Kaye should be allowed a little prejudice with her pride. Not only was the author born and brought up in India, her grandfather, father, brother, husband and sundry relatives all served the British Raj and some of them even wrote books about the subcontinent. And her mother came from a family of British missionaries working in China.

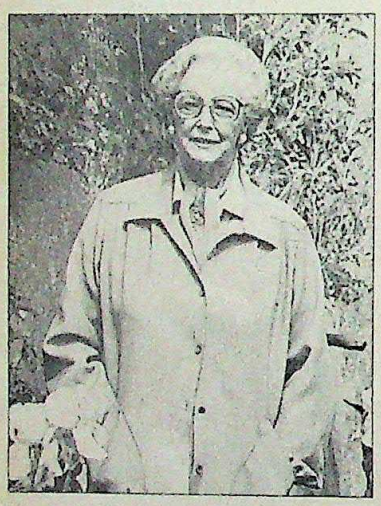
In fact, Kipling's daughter would have done better had she remained Daddy's daughter, writing a Daddy Dearest without the sarcasm. Tacklow, as she called her father (Cecil Kaye was with the 21st Punjabis) and whom she obviously hero-worshipped, emerges as a truly fascinating character. A linguist (nine languages) and code-cracker par excellence, he retired as director of Central Intelligence in India.

Kaye has her moments of good writing. Tacklow on his first tiger shoot casually watches a "patch of colour between the grass stems and the thorn boughs seemed to cohere and become clearer: 'like a photographic print in a tray of developing solution '. What he thought was a bird behind the bushes is a tiger.

But the writing is often so cotton candyish and treacly that even Barbara Cartland would cringe. For example: "Her spirits had shot up like the fountains in the gardens of the Taj...."

This is only the first volume and takes Kaye to her 18th year. It is hoped that the author uses her blue pen in the subsequent volumes: this one is a bulging hold-all of a book with all kinds of trivia spilling out.

—MADHU JAIN

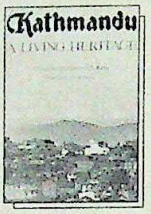


M.M. Kaye: the eternal romantic

Elegant Work

Nepali art chronicled

KATHMANDU: A LIVING HERITAGE
by PASHUPATI SHUMSHERE J.B. RANA
Publishers: The Perennial Press, IBD
Price: Rs 450; Pages: 228



THERE is a misconception, common in India and abroad, that culturally Nepal is simply an extension of the Indian tradition. In some ways, of course, this is true, because the two great religions that have peacefully coexisted and inter-mingled there for two thousand years—Hinduism and Buddhism—arose in India. However, due to peculiar geographical and historical circumstances, the Kathmandu valley, dominated by the great Himalayan range, has over the centuries developed a unique architectural and religious blending of the two major streams, adding a third element of Tantricism which is common both to the Hindu and Buddhist traditions in the Himalayas.

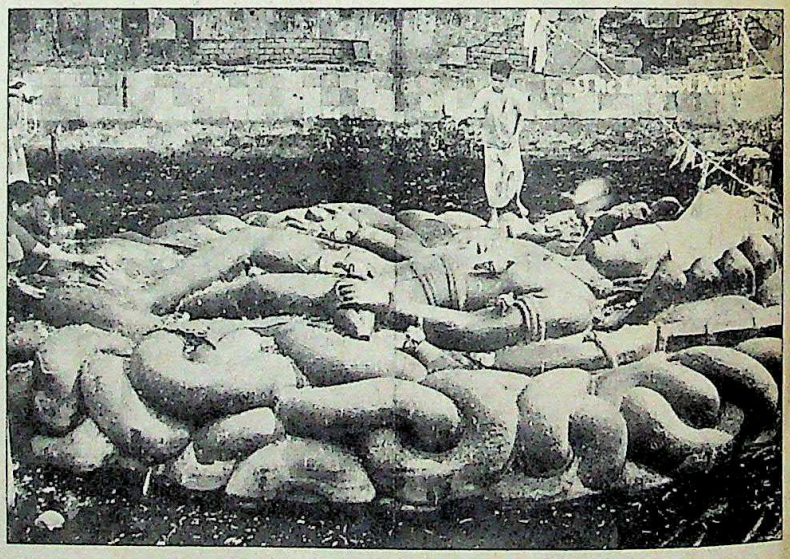
The result has been an extraordinarily rich and profuse outpouring of architectural and artistic genius, beginning during the Lichhavi period and reaching its zenith in the superb and incredible Newar architecture of the Malla period.

In this elegantly written and beautifully illustrated book, Pashupati Rana, who graduated from Oxford and is now a significant political figure in Nepal, takes the reader through the whole spectrum of Nepali art down through the centuries, pointing out the relationship between the turbulent political eras in the Kathmandu valley and their impact upon the artistic and religious life of the people. Presenting his material in an eloquent and cogent manner, the author brings the story right up to the present day when tourism, vandalism and illegal exports are gravely threatening the unique treasures of the Kathmandu valley, as indeed they are in Ladakh. He rightly comments that there are probably more Himalayan artifacts now in foreign museums and private collections than remain in the Himalayas themselves.

The accent in this book is upon the important fact that the artistic heritage in Kathmandu is not merely historical and archival, but represents a living tradition, and that millions of people still interact with the various deities of the Hindu and Buddhist pantheon as part of their daily religious activities. This is a book which will evoke wide interest in India and abroad, as much for what it says as for the way in which it says it. It has some superb photographs of the unique Nepali temples, stupas and artistic treasures, including a beautiful one of the gigantic reclining Vishnu at Budhanikantha which dates back to the 6th century A.D., surely one of the world's greatest sculptures. I visited it once on a full moon night, and it was a truly magical experience.

—KARAN SINGH

The impressive reclining Vishnu



CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

SHOOTING STARS AT HOME!

INSTANT VIDEO PRINTERS FROM NEC.

Get instant colour prints of your favourite stars as you watch them on video. Shoot James Bond or get Bo Derek to pose for you — anything's possible with NEC of Japan. The company that is 32nd on Fortune's Global 500. World leaders in computers, communications, electron devices and home electronics. Pioneers of the concept of Computers & Communications (C&C). Marketing over 15,000 products in 140 countries. When you next go abroad, get a sharper focus on NEC's amazing products.

In India, NEC's amazing technology can be seen in CROWN and BUSH TVs and VCRs.

NEC

NEC Corporation, Japan.

The Future of Home Entertainment.

DAVIS CUP by NEC

LINTAS NEC P 10 2417

For information only

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Your first strategic move for 199

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

INDIA TODAY
YEAR BOOK 1991
Code: IT 101
Size: 20.9 x 27.9 cm
Price: Rs 275

SLIMLINE
DIARY 1991
Code: IT 102
Size: 8.2 x 17.1 cm
Price: Rs 70

POCKET DAIRY 1991
Code IT 103
Size: 7.6 x 12.0 cm
Price: Rs. 45

INDIA TODAY YEARBOOK 1991
Code: 201
Size: 20.9 x 27.9 cm
Price: Rs. 475

INDIA TODAY DIARIES

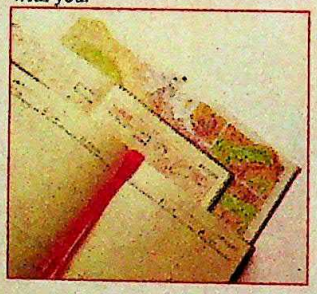
The 1991 India Today diary set comes in a comprehensive range of a yearbook and compact diaries. Each diary is attractively produced combining excellence with efficiency, style with substance. Gold leaf embossing, gilt-edged pages, handy ribbon markers are just a few of the exclusive features of these diaries.

INDIA TODAY YEARBOOK 1991

The India Yearbook helps you to manage your time effectively and is much more than just a desk diary – it is a carefully selected compendium of information compiled in sections. The dairy section is laid out in an easy-to-read format.

Slimline and Pocket Diaries

The Slimline diary is designed for your jacket or briefcase while the Pocket diary tucks away neatly into your pocket. Incredibly compact and convenient, yet packed with all the features you need, including quick information sections on hotels and essential ISD/STD codes. With these compact diaries you can now carry all the day-to-day information you need with you.



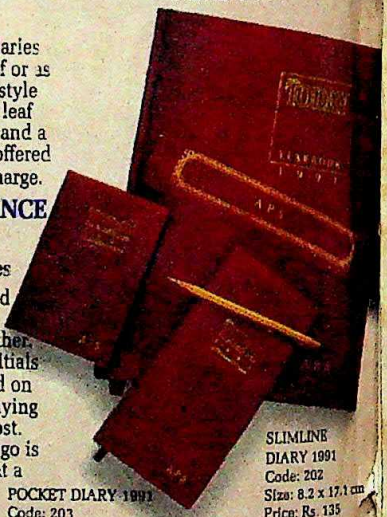
PERSONALIZE THESE BEAUTIFUL DIARIES

Whether you are ordering the diaries as a set or as singles, for yourself or as a gift for someone, you can add style and personalize them with gold leaf embossing of upto three initials and a company logo (logo embossing offered on the Yearbook), at a nominal charge.

HAND-CRAFTED ELEGANCE IN REAL LEATHER

Limited Edition Premium Diaries

The 1991 Yearbook, Slimline and Pocket diaries have also been produced in rich brown real leather. Gold embossing of upto three initials on all these premium diaries and on the leather book-mark accompanying the Yearbook is offered free of cost. Gold embossing of a company logo is available only on the Yearbook at a nominal cost.



SLIMLINE
DIARY 1991
Code: 202
Size: 8.2 x 17.1 cm
Price: Rs. 135

POCKET DIARY 1991
Code: 203
Size: 7.6 x 12.0 cm
Price: Rs. 90

Make your selection now and send in your order before 30th October 1990 for a special pre-publication discount of about 15%. If the order form has been used mail your enquiry/order to Living Media India Ltd., P B No 29, New Delhi 110001. Please add Rs. 10 for gold embossing of each set of 3 initials per diary.

ORDER FORM 1991

Product Code	Product Details	Regular Price (Rs)	Spl. Price For Orders Recd. Before Oct. 30, 1990 (Rs)	Quantity Ordered	Total Amount (Rs)
IT 101	India Today Yearbook 1991 (Regular)	275	235	____	____
IT 102	India Today Slimline Diary (Regular)	70	60	____	____
IT 103	India Today Pocket Diary (Regular)	45	38	____	____
IT 201	India Today Yearbook 1991 (Leather)	475	405	____	____
IT 202	India Today Slimline Diary (Leather)	135	115	____	____
IT 203	India Today Pocket Diary (Leather)	90	77	____	____

- Total — Rs. ____
- Extra for gold embossing of initials on the regular diaries @ Rs. 10 per unit per diary (This facility is free of charge for the premium leather diaries) Please give maximum of 3 initials per diary ordered on a separate sheet — Rs. ____
- Company logo (facility offered only for the yearbooks viz product codes IT 101 and IT 201) @ Rs. 15 per logo per diary — Rs ____
- Add Rs 5 for outstation cheques (i.e. cheques outside Delhi) — Rs. ____

Grand Total — Rs. ____

I enclose a crossed Cheque/DD for Rs. _____ (add Rs. 5/- for outstation cheques i.e. outside Delhi) payable to 'Living Media India Ltd'.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

_____

Order Now!
Discount offer extended upto 30th Oct 1990

Please note:

- Cheques/drafts payable at Bombay, Madras, Calcutta and Delhi must be MICR only.
- Diaries will be home delivered by Registered Post/Courier. Deliveries will commence by early November and barring unforeseen circumstances will be completed by end December 1990.
- For gift instructions, please give recipient's name and address alongwith details for embossing initials on a separate sheet.
- Facility for gold embossing company logo is offered only for Yearbooks (Product codes IT 101 and IT 201). Minimum order is 25 diaries per logo. Maximum area of logo is 6 sq cms. Artworks or positives will need to be supplied.
- Offer and rates valid in India only.

Remittance should be drawn in favour of Living Media India Ltd. and mailed alongwith your name, address and the completed order form to Living Media India Ltd., P B No. 29, New Delhi 110 001

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

078608

◆ Where was DD when India won its only gold at the Asiad? India may have taken a bashing at Beijing, but it did manage to get a gold in *kabaddi*. Yet Indian viewers were left in the dark: DD cameras were elsewhere. The cameras were also missing when India and Pakistan tangled for the hockey gold and Indians saw the match through international feed. DD failed to get a broadcasting corner for this cliff-hanging match and commentator Jasdev Singh did his commentary from the monitor.

◆ Fantasy seems to be in the air. Coming soon on the small screen is the delightful *Mullah Nasiruddin*—a 14th century Birbal of sorts—whose earthy wisdom can be found in folk tales from Turkey to China. In India he's referred to as Mullah Do Piaza. Raghuvir Yadav of Mungheri Lal fame plays the Mullah who pops up in all sorts of places with his faithful donkey Fidhu. Manohar Singh is the evil money lender, Vijay Kashyap the evil Emir, and Deepak Tiwari the court eunuch. There is also a pair of newcomers as the innocent young lovers around whom the story revolves. In other words all the stuff fairy tales are made of. Directed by Amal Allana for Times Television, the music for the serial is by Louis Banks.

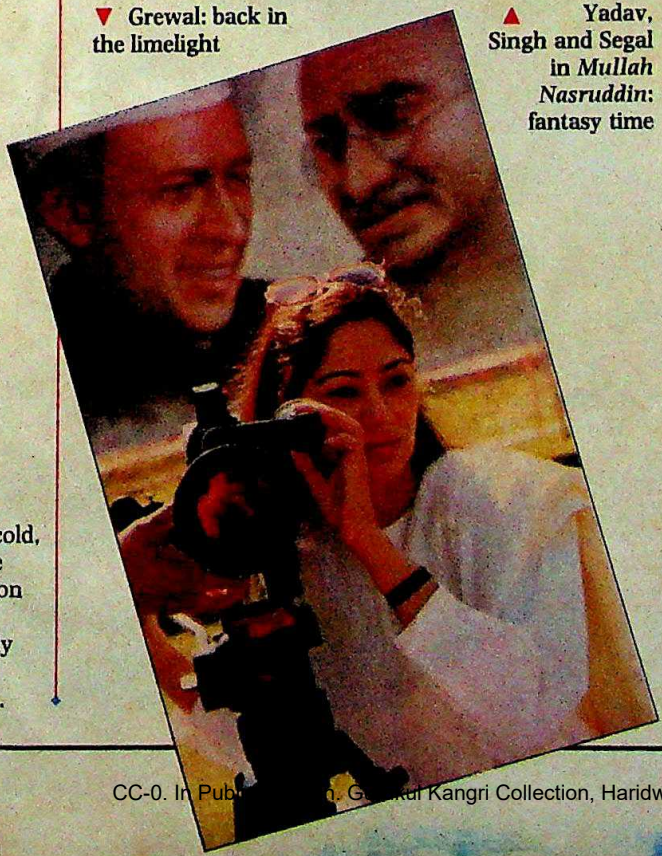
◆ Something strange indeed is happening in Mandi House. After having been out in the cold, Rajiv Gandhi's favourite lady film maker is back on DD. Last fortnight, Simi Grewal's *Rukhsat*, a fairly well-made *masala* show was on the small screen.

Beijing Asiad: several faux pas

BHAWAN SINGH

ASHOK S. BHAGAT

▲ Yadav, Singh and Segal in *Mullah Nasruddin*: fantasy time



▼ Grewal: back in the limelight

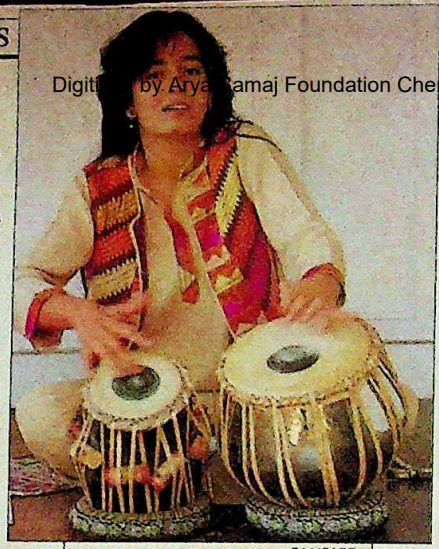
Moreover, she even got the prized Saturday evening slot. And, had the closing ceremony of Asiad not gone overtime, it would have been a weekend of the Rapunzel-tressed actress-director. Her new telefilm *Akhri Khabar* had been scheduled for Sunday evening. Is the latest news the fact that she's in? When it rains, it pours.

◆ DD's been hiding its light beneath a bushel. Minutes after a news item on Veerendra Patil, it rushed an interview with a visibly ill chief minister into the English news with Olympic speed. What made the speed with which the interview was rushed even more amazing was the fact that until now television news has been largely restricted to stills or the occasional moving footage. Clearly, the return to the interview with Patil after having gone on to another news item was an effort to embarrass the Congress(I) Government in Karnataka. Has Rip Van Winkle finally woken up to late 20th century? Perhaps one has to wait for a chief minister of the ruling party to snub his leader to find out if such breathtaking efficiency has become a habit.

◆ Sanjay Khan has not even put Tipu Sultan's sword back into its sheath and he's on to another battlefield. But to a very different battle cry. This time it's *Jai Hanuman*. Khan has begun work on a 26-episode serial on "the Indian superman". Actor Anant Mahadevan, whose malleable face peeps out of every second TV serial, is writing the script. American experts will do the special effects. Is this a case of keeping up with the Sagars and the Chopras? —MADHU JAIN

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

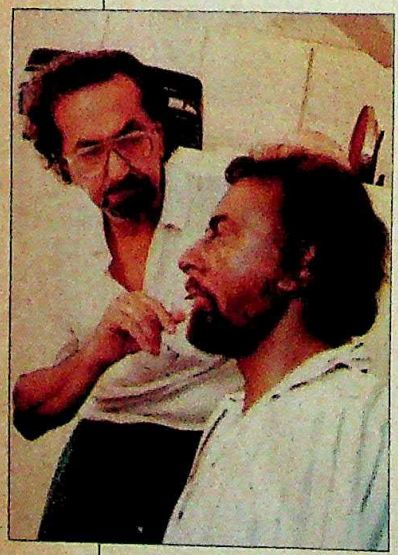
Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri



FILMFARE

Pal: successful beat

◆ She's the woman behind the man. You can spot **Anuradha Pal**, 20, daughter of painter Ila Pal, occasionally playing the tabla behind famous musicians like Pandit Jasraj, Pandit Brij Narayan and Sultan Khan. She has been hooked since she was nine. "One day I heard Ustad Allah Rakha and Ustad Zakir Husain play, and was totally fascinated," says Pal who last month drummed up many wows at a sarod and kathak performance in Bombay. While she plans to make tabla a full-time career, Pal has other mundane tasks to attend to first: like, a B.A. exam in English literature.



Alyque (left) touches up Bedi

◆ He's getting ready to murder his wife. Next month **Kabir Bedi** will play Othello, Shakespeare's tortured tragic hero driven insane by suspicion of his wife's infidelity. Sick and tired of today's trashy, lightweight plays, producer Alyque Padamsee—who had been brooding over *Othello* for 20 long years—finally decided to tackle Shakespeare's most challenging character. Bedi, who has acted as Tughlaq in the past, will be driven to the very peak of his acting prowess in *Othello* as he in turn rouses Iago's jealousy and succumbs to his own suspicions. Says Padamsee: "He will be an ideal Othello. I needed an extremely virile, good-looking man: his sex appeal is one of the reasons for Iago's jealousy." Will Bedi finally, prove that he is not just another pretty boy?

NAMAS BHOJANI

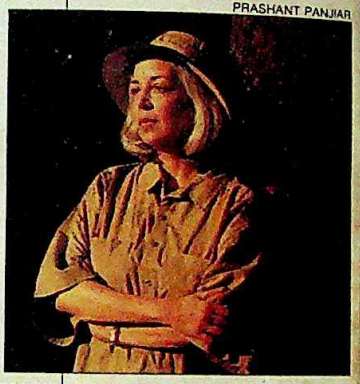
Birla: master copycat

◆ Not only did he eye the Mona Lisa, he even decided to paint her. For several years, industrialist **Aditya Birla**, 47, has been secretly recreating the masters—Leonardo da Vinci, Husain and so on. Last fortnight, the billionaire finally put his private passion on public display—at the insistence of his son Kumaramangalam, who is an art buff himself. "I really admire the past masters," confessed Birla with the acute embarrassment of a bathroom singer caught off-guard. "This is my way of expressing gratitude to the geniuses who have enriched my life." Even though he's a copy cat, critics say he's a good one.

◆ What is **Leela Naidu** doing serving afternoon tea in a jungle lodge to a handful of English tourists? Once counted among the five most beautiful women in the world, Naidu stars as a poor rajkumari in *An Electric Moon*, a funny-sad film which is being made for Channel 4. Directed by Arundhati Roy and Pradeep Kishen (*Massey Sahib*), the film takes the typical Raj formula—tigers, snake-charmers, maharajas—and then, neatly, turns it around. Naidu, in bermudas and straw hat, runs a lodge that perfectly recreates the oriental mystique. "My role is partly comic and an answer to many a prayer," says Naidu who will be acting after five years. One problem though:

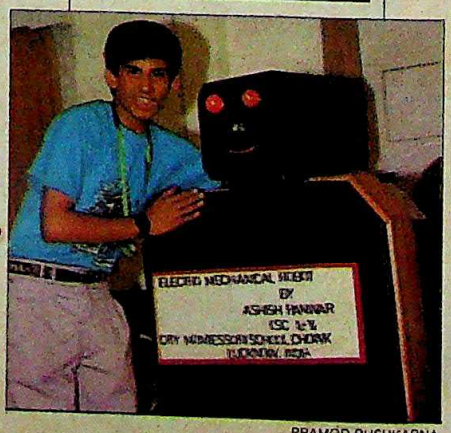
Naidu: tea and Tallyho

PRASHANT PANJIAR



she had to cut her beautiful long hair for the role, which she fears will upset husband Dom Moraes no end.

◆ The 60 robots had a wild party: one climbed walls, another did obstacle races while a third couldn't stop dancing. But it was the one from India—Sias the Watchman with flashing red eyes—that won the bronze medal for good behaviour at the first international Robot Olympics held at Glasgow, Scotland last month. "He can clean house, catch burglars, and switch on the lights when it gets dark," says the creator **Ashish Panwar**, 16, a Lucknow schoolboy who is the son of a farmer—and the youngest participant at the Olympics. Good boy Sias however, has one major flaw that Ashish has yet to fix: at 70 kg he is a fat little thing.



PRAMOD PUSHKARNA

Panwar and Sias

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Every genuine WILLS GOLD FLAKE cigarette bears the name W.D. & H.O. WILLS

A BRAND OWNED BY I.T.C. LTD. MADE IN INDIA.

CLARION C-GFK-16R2

STATUTORY WARNING: CIGARETTE SMOKING IS INJURIOUS TO HEALTH

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

GREAT
INDIAN
SPIRIT

A celebration called Diwali.

And a scooter called Bajaj.

The first enjoyed

all over the country.

The second trusted

all over the country.

Both reflecting

the great Indian spirit.

Bajaj Scooters:
Super, Chetak, Priya & Club.

bajaj auto

You just can't beat a bajaj

Bajaj Auto Ltd., Akurdi, Pune 411035.

HUTAS BAJ 164-2720

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri
CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

Compiled
1999-2000

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri

CC-0. In Public Domain. Gurukul Kangri Collection, Haridwar

Digitized by Arya Samaj Foundation Chennai and eGangotri